TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South,

FOR 1897-98.

Including Minutes of the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, Held in Greensboro, N. C., June 2, 1898.

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SESSIONS OF THE

WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

THE Annual Meetings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions have been held as follows:

	Date.	Place.		Date.	Place.
First,	1879...	Louisville, Ky.	Eleventh,	1889...	Little Rock, Ark.
Second,	1880...	Nashville, Tenn.	Twelfth,	1890...	St. Louis, Mo.
Third,	1881...	St. Louis, Mo.	Thirteenth,	1891...	Fort Worth, Tex.
Fourth,	1882...	Nashville, Tenn.	Fourteenth,	1892...	Lexington, Ky.
Fifth,	1883...	Lynchburg, Va.	Fifteenth,	1893...	Kansas City, Mo.
Sixth,	1884...	Kansas City, Mo.	Sixteenth,	1894...	Atlanta, Ga.
Seventh,	1885...	Knoxville, Tenn.	Seventeenth,	1895...	Meridian, Miss.
Eighth,	1886...	Augusta, Ga.	Eighteenth,	1896...	Washington, D. C.
Ninth,	1887...	Catlettsburg, Ky.	Nineteenth,	1897...	Birmingham, Ala.
Tenth,	1888...	Nashville, Tenn.	Twentieth,	1898...	Greensboro, N. C.

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TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

MRS. S. C. TRUEHEART, Foreign Secretary.

1898.

For twenty years the Woman's Board has been at work, seeking to carry out God's will concerning the nations of the earth. Though marked by no startling achievements during these years, there has been steady progress, creditable development, and to-day flourishing missions in China, Korea, Brazil, and Mexico are maintained. Looking over the past, noting the small beginning in 1878, the few hundred women willing to work systematically for the divine enterprise of foreign missions, the one missionary sent out, and the wide-spread apathy of the Church as to woman's work, the heart dwells with thanksgiving upon the present condition of the Woman's Board. Comparing our achievements, however, with the tremendous forces of heathendom which still confront Christianity, we should be depressed, rather than exultant, but for the sure word of promise. It is sad, but true, as some one strikingly declared, that "Christianity as yet touches the age-incrusted and unyielding surface of heathendom only in spots, and has hardly broken its way through to an extent which enables us to recognize its power or to discover its transforming tendency." But we rejoice to know that, as a Board, we have helped to send to far-off lands a force of transcendent energy, of divine power, that in some measure is making itself felt, that with quiet persistency will continue to overturn all obstructions until it becomes the maker of a new civilization throughout the world. What has been accomplished abroad has not been more important, not more transforming, than that done at home. The women of the Church have stepped out upon a broader platform, have reached a higher plane. Twenty years ago they hesitated to assume the responsibility of planning and executing work which demanded so much thought and faith. Opportunities were overlooked, or cautiously and im-

perfectly met; but a change has come, not only in methods of work but in motive and purpose. Flashes of enthusiasm, consequent upon some thrilling speech, have in many hearts settled into steady, abiding conviction, and the thought of God, that woman is a potent agency in the evangelization of the world, has been transforming the conscience, educating the mind, sanctifying the whole being, and elevating the hopes of the rising generation.

A wonderful movement of the young life of the Church has grown out of the home influences consequent upon the uplifting, quickening power that the subject of foreign missions has wrought upon the mothers' hearts. Are not the sons and daughters of such mothers more ready to respond to the watchword of the Students' Volunteer movement, "The evangelization of the world in this generation?"

Very gratefully does every woman recognize the powerful influence the work is having upon her own life. Visions of the "white-robed throng," many of whom she turned to Christ, make the dark valley bright and the Holy City more inviting. The conflict is only fairly begun, however; and no woman who loves the Lord Christ is thinking of retiring from the ranks. She is seeking rather to swell the numbers enlisted, to revive the flagging energies of the disheartened, and to push the battle to the ends of the earth. "The army of Christ is not an army of occupation simply; it is an army of conquest," and moving to certain triumph. The world is open; not a country is closed to trade, to the eye of adventure, to the greed of gain, and surely not to the gospel. There is money in the pockets of the Church, and facilities of travel make the opposite shores of the Pacific almost "next door," and all the nations need the gospel. As we catch glimpses of the great thought of God, to evangelize the world through human agency, our purposes broaden, and, instead of China, Korea, Brazil, and Mexico, we embrace Africa, India, Cuba, the isles of the sea—the whole world.

The organized working force of the Woman's Board includes 34 Conference Societies, 270 districts, 3,629 auxiliaries, and 74,479 members, a gain of 664 during twelve months. There has been increase in collections, notwithstanding the small amounts in the way of donations and bequests. The report of the Treasurer shows $86,418.76, $3,538.29 over last year's receipts. This is better than our fears, and encourages us.

The *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, during the past few months, received an impetus that promises much. It has, at this writing,

13,171 subscribers, and a circulation of 14,500. An agency so helpful in spreading missionary intelligence as this, is simply indispensable, and should be in the hands of every woman of the Church.

The *Little Worker*, the children's paper, has not yet become self-supporting, though it is one of the best juvenile papers published by any Board with which I am acquainted.

Leaflets have been gratuitously distributed, as usual, and the demand for them does not abate. They have been a large factor in keeping up the missionary zeal of our membership.

Literature.—An effort to add to our missionary libraries has been somewhat successful. The forward movement of our General Board in the line of maps and charts, as well as other appliances for increasing missionary intelligence, is helpful to us. This good work will go on until the divine enterprise in which the Church is enlisted will have a full, valuable, and efficient missionary literature.

The work in the various foreign fields has been carried forward throughout the year, with few interruptions and no financial retrenchments.

STATISTICS OF FOREIGN WORK.

There are now fifty regular missionaries employed by the Board, distributed in the several countries occupied. There are 132 assistants in schools and in evangelistic work, 12 boarding-schools, 59 day-schools, 3 kindergartens, 3 hospitals, 1 Bible college, 37 Bible women, 77 scholarships, and more than 4,000 pupils in the schools, besides many hundred women under instruction.

China.

Changes are taking place in this vast empire which will be for the furtherance of the gospel, if evangelical Christians of all denominations will measure up to their opportunities.

Some of the changes which have taken place profoundly affect the conditions of missionary work. Commercial industries have multiplied; wages have in some cities increased, and the cost of living, too. There is also an unrest growing out of political conditions that intensifies the half-awakened hopes of the Chinese, and makes them ready to avail themselves of any means to improve their condition. As the hold on old superstitions grows less tenacious, as faith in the possibility of there being something better increases, Christians have a golden opportunity to give them the truth. A retrospection of missionary operations during the last year reveals a most encouraging state of affairs. There is marked activity among

the natives in educational matters, an unprecedented advance in evangelistic work, and larger evidences of the power of the truth on individual life. In Soochow the work at the Davidson Memorial Bible College shows healthful growth. The work at the hospital goes forward, and the Mary Black Memorial (the children's hospital) is complete in its appointments and beautiful in all its arrangements. Dr. Margaret Polk's complete success is hindered only by want of numbers on the medical staff. It is expected that the McGavock Memorial Hall will be built during the coming year. This memorial will meet the loving wishes of all who knew the first General Secretary of the Board, and greatly increase the facilities for higher education in McTyeire Home and School.

Self-support is becoming a feature in all our schools. Whenever a pupil can pay anything for tuition, a small fee is charged. This is always a condition of the study of English.

Bible Women.—This branch of evangelistic work, the value of which can not be estimated, not only commends itself to our workers at home, so that calls for Bible women have exceeded the supply, but has multiplied probationers, increased our Sunday-schools and women's classes, as well as deepened the spiritual life of the natives. Going, as our Bible women do, from house to house, teaching Christ from the Word and from their own experiences, having access to the homes and hearts of hundreds who shrink from foreigners, the effects can not be estimated.

Korea.

This country, situated in the eastern part of Asia, has a population of twelve millions, among whom there are less than one hundred missionaries from the whole Protestant Church. The people, too, are more eager for a change than the Chinese, whom they somewhat resemble. Their dress, like that of the Mexican men, is white. Some one has accounted for the prevailing white in the fact that white being mourning, and mourning days being many days, and fashions in shape and cut being unchangeable, it became the nationa dress. The people are poor and ignorant, and need Christ. The Board followed our General Board to this mission one year ago, sending Mrs. J. P. Campbell to open up the work. A lot was at once purchased in Seoul, and an appropriation made for putting up a home and school. Soon after Mrs. Campbell's arrival the Baptists, who had a school-building they wished to sell in order to transfer their headquarters farther inland, offered it to our Board on very advan-

tageous terms, and a part of the appropriation for building was used in the purchase. This arrangement greatly facilitated the opening of school. The outlook has been most encouraging from the first.

Mexico.

Mexico, whose population is also twelve millions, is beginning to break away from Romanism. Converted in its early history from heathenism at the point of the sword and by the terrors of the Inquisition, and ruled by the Romish Church, with all its real estate, schools, and churches under its dominion, her people have been degraded and impoverished from the days of Cortez. Light has dawned, intolerance is passing away, and freedom to choose the God they will serve is now theirs. We should prove to them that our God is the Lord, and the only Mediator between God and man is Christ. Our missions are beacon lights, and are growing brighter amid the gloom. Eighteen months ago we had no Bible women in Mexico to stress the claims of the open Bible in the homes of the natives; now we have thirteen, and through this agency the Word of God is taught and the power of the gospel felt in the homes.

Brazil.

The condition of this great South American republic is more and more favorable to the spread of scriptural holiness. Bishop Galloway, who visited this country last year, very carefully and thoroughly inspected our missions. He noted the school work, the general operations of our missionaries, and brought back much to encourage. An uplifted Christ is needed greatly, as He only can cast out the deadly poison of superstitious, ignorant Romanism, and bid the inhabitants live. Evangelistic work has a place in our mission plans in Brazil, but as yet has not been taken up by the native women. Soon two Bible women will go regularly to work, under the supervision of the missionaries, as in other stations.

Indian Mission.

The outlook here is encouraging. During the past year a number of bright conversions have taken place, and change in the lives of these young Indians at Methvin Institute proves change of heart. Soon native evangelistic work will be a helpful feature in the mission. Miss Helen Brewster has under her supervision one Bible woman who has proved efficient, and as the women are converted and educated for such places of importance great results will follow.

EXTENSION OF WORK.

Extension of operations in opening a mission in Korea, and adopting the Keener School in the City of Mexico, had a quickening influence upon the home workers. A boarding-school and mission home, from which go out evangelistic work through the Bible women, and day-school work under native teachers, has become a settled policy of the Board in our operations in foreign fields. We have such homes and schools at every station, either in property owned by the Board or in rented houses. This plan works well, and a glorious future is before us as we enter the gateway of the nations as Christ's ambassadors. Cuba has been, for a long time, an object of Christian desire. The Board has coveted the privilege of giving its people an open Bible, and leading them into the green pastures of heavenly love, that the sufferings of this present life may be the gateway of eternal rest with God, who died for them. We rejoice in the prospect of the final triumph of the cross of Christ, when from "church and school, from hospital and asylum, through its unostentatious instrumentalities of literature, personal example, regenerated home life, and sanctified individual character it goes forth conquering and to conquer," until every land and every tongue bows in humble adoration before this blood-stained, imperishable monument.

CHINA.

MONGOLIA
PEKING
Gulf of Peh-chi-li
YELLOW SEA
Peh-ling Mountains
CHINA
SHANGHAI
NANKING
SU-CHAU
NING-PO
CHE-KIANG
KWEI-CHAU
HUNAN
FUH-KIEN
AMOY
KWANG-SI
KWANG-TUNG
CANTON
TONG-KING
HAI-NAN
FORMOSA
ENGLAND on Same Scale
WALES
ENGLAND
Scale of English Miles
China Inland

MISS LAURA A. HAYGOOD.

MISS LOCHIE RANKIN.

MISS DONA HAMILTON.

MISS DORA RANKIN.

REPORT OF FOREIGN WORK.

OFFICIAL.

CHINA.

Work of Woman's Board Opened in 1878.

Shanghai District.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Laura A. Haygood,
Miss Elizabeth Hughes,
Miss Minnie Bomar,
Miss Emma Gary,
Miss Ella Leveritt,
Miss Helen Richardson,*
Miss Clara Steger,
Miss Johnnie Sanders,
Miss Ella R. Coffey,
Miss Lochie Rankin,
Miss Mary Richardson.†

Work in Charge of Married Women.

Mrs. A. P. Parker and Mrs. A. B. Burke.

Shanghai, Nantziang, Käding, and Sung-Kiang constitute one district. There are flourishing schools at each of these stations, as well as active native workers and Bible women. The Hayes-Wilkins Memorial, containing the well-equipped Melissa Baker Chapel, is up and in charge of Miss Leveritt, who, with the valuable aid of Mrs. Burke, the pastor's wife, has a most decided promise of early success. McTyeire Home and School, except in salaries of missionaries, may be regarded as self-supporting. Clopton School, with its scholarships, may be regarded as supported by specials. The day-schools about Trinity and Clopton are taught by native teachers, and superintended by Miss Elizabeth Hughes and Miss Emma Gary. Miss Steger, in addition to her duties at McTyeire Home and School, has charge of Palmetto School, a pay day-school for the children of native policemen, which was opened a year ago by Mrs. Sallie Reynolds Reid, and supported by "Palmetto Leaves" of South Carolina. The work at Nantziang and Käding shows gratifying signs of fruit-bearing, rejoicing the hearts Miss Rankin and Miss Coffey, the missionaries in charge. At all these points reports show the valuable work of native Bible women. Miss Haygood, who has charge of McTyeire Home and School in Miss Richardson's absence, as well as having the general oversight of all the missions, presents the following:

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*Home on leave. †Soon to go out.

Annual Reports of Miss Laura A. Haygood.

Our China work during the past year has been represented by eighteen ladies working under appointment of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, and by six ladies, wives of missionaries, associated with them in work. Eight of these have lived and worked in Shanghai, seven in Soochow, three in Nantziang, two in Sung-Kiang, and two are now in the home land. Each of those present will bring to us the record of her year's work; for those who are absent the work itself will speak.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome at this meeting the return of Mrs. Campbell and Miss Waters to the mission field. Miss Rankin, leaving ing us in July for a short visit to her mother, has already turned her face Chinaward, and will soon be with us again. We have cheering news from Miss Steger, who, for health reasons, has been in Japan for several months past. She hopes within the next month to return to China and to the work so dear to her heart. Miss Richardson, after seven years of service, left us on the last day of July on furlough. God willing, she will be with us again at our next annual gathering. It is with regret that we record Miss Reynolds' resignation, but are glad to know that she leaves us only that she may take up other work in China.

During the year just closing it has been my privilege to share in some measure the life and work of the ladies at each of our stations. With our three boarding-schools for girls, in which there are nearly one hundred pupils; with our forty-five day-schools and their one thousand pupils; with our hospitals for women and children; with our Bible school for women; with the various meetings for outside women; with the opportunities that come to us for service in church and Sunday-school, and in daily contact with the people all about us in their homes and ours—it will be very evident to all that every one of our little band has work enough to fill her hands and mind and heart, and to bring into exercise every gift with which God has endowed her. As I have come to know the environment of each, as I have shared now and then the joys and sorrows the passing days have brought, I have come to feel with each of them in turn that no other work in all this broad land could be more important than that which she represented, that no other missionary to China had broader opportunities or greater possibilities before her than the one whose work for the time I counted mine, and I have been glad and grateful with each for the high and holy calling God has given her. But I have felt with her as well the close kinship of joy and sorrow, of opportunity and responsibility, of weakness and strength, of glad fruition and bitter disappointment. To some of them who went forth weeping, bearing precious seed, there has come within one short year the sweet experience of coming again rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them. But not all seed have fallen upon good ground. Some by the wayside have been trampled under careless feet; some, falling in stony places, have quickly perished; and some have fallen among thorns. And yet in looking back over the year, with its varied experiences, I can not but feel that to us, a little band of women coming in Christ's name to the women and children of China, and working for them as He has given us opportunity, the year has been crowned with tender mercies and loving-kindnesses.

At the beginning of the Conference year, by the authority of our Board, we began work in Sung-Kiang. I had hoped in a special sense to make that my work, but as the months passed I found that this was not God's plan for me. Miss Hughes and Miss Gary have at different times, as there was opportunity, supplied in some measure my lack of service, and Mrs. Burke has borne alone many of the burdens I had thought to share. Since February we have had another representative there, and Mrs. Burke a helper, in Miss Leveritt.

Other advances in work have been marked by the opening of a new home in Soochow for ladies, which has already, we believe, become a center of blessing, a great light in a dark place; by the opening of the Davidson Memorial Bible School at Soochow, for which we are expecting an ever-widening usefulness; by the opening of a day-school and chapel at Waung-Daung, a village near Soochow; and by an increase in the number of Bible women.

It has been a great joy to find during the year, especially at Soochow, at Nantziang, and at Sung-Kiang, a large number of women ready, many of them even eager, to hear the "Jesus doctrine." Memories of upturned expectant faces come before me as I write, and anew the great thankfulness that we have a real message from a living, loving Father for them. I have known that the readiness to hear has not always meant a readiness to receive, but I have found in it a token that God was opening minds and hearts and making a highway for his messengers.

In our homes and in our schools I have found during the year the most earnest, the most faithful teaching of the word of God. In many of our workers, growing out of such study, I have found not only a deepening sense of the responsibility resting upon us as "witnesses for Christ" to this people, but of our absolute dependence upon the Holy Spirit for a daily anointing for service. Many hearts among us, I feel, have come to know "without Him I can do nothing" and at the same time to rejoice in the blessed assurance that, "through Him that strengtheneth me," I can do all things that He wills or appoints for me.

McTyeire School.

There were forty pupils enrolled. Of these, seven had been in the school since its first year, 1892, while twenty-two entered the school during the year. Of these pupils of the last year, there is a very interesting class of ten girls, from eight to twelve years of age, whose parents have expressed the purpose or wish to have them remain in school until they are educated. They come, some from official families, some from the homes of business people. We count them our "Band of Hope."

Of the pupils in the school last term, eleven were communicants in some branch of the Christian Church. Fifteen others count themselves "Christian," because one or both parents in some cases are Christians, or they come from families favorable to Christianity. Every pupil is under constant religious instruction. All are required to attend the devotional exercises morning and afternoon in the school chapel. All have daily Bible lessons. All who remain in the school over Sunday are taken to Sunday-school and morning service at our Central Church. A special service, to

which their mothers and friends are invited, is held for them in the school every Sunday afternoon except the first Sunday in the month, when the Christians are taken to the communion service at Trinity Church. One evening in every week a prayer-meeting is held in the school chapel, attended by all the members of the school and by the ladies of McTyeire Home. Besides there are several volunteer prayer services held by groups of pupils in dormitories or studies during the week. In addition, the teachers and Christian pupils find many opportunities here and there to speak a word for Jesus to those who know him not.

We have three distinct courses of study, besides music—one the Chinese language and literature; one the English language and literature, with a collateral course in science, to be taught in Chinese or English, at the discretion of the Principal of the school; and a course in religious instruction, running through the entire school course, beginning with little "San-zz kyung" (a metrical Christian primer), and leading to the Bible. The courses in English and in Chinese are elective, but every pupil entering the school is required to take the course in religious instruction.

All the pupils are taught vocal music, and until the opening of the last term those who de-ired it were taught instrumental music without extra charge. When we thought the time had come when those who desired this accomplishment for their daughters ought to pay for it, to our pleasure and surprise, there was no falling off in the music class. We feel that it marks a real advance in purpose and desire for their daughters that so many fathers wish them to study music even when it must be paid for.

Our present charges are $3 (Mexican) per month for board, $1 per month for general tuition, and $1 for instrumental music. During the past year we received from our board only $200 (gold) for McTyeire School—the receipts, with this help, meeting all the current expenses of the school, including salaries of native teachers. During the year upon which we have now entered we hope to need even less in the way of help than this.

We have had much reason to feel from its very opening that God's hand was resting for good upon this school. Among many blessed providences, this has been very marked: that teachers have been supplied in times of special need, shown at the time in the coming of Miss Waters, who will help us in the general work of the school while Miss Richardson is at home on furlough, and in the preparation of Miss Sanders to take up the work from which Miss Reynolds retired.

I might say much of the faithful and efficient work of Miss Richardson and Miss Reynolds in McTyeire School, but I feel that the growth of the school and its present prosperity speak more eloquently for them and for their work than words could speak.

I beg to commend this school to your sympathy and to your prayers. Many of these girls come to us from homes very difficult to reach. We do long that they should go back from us to these homes as light-bearers—"children of light." We thank God for the good hope we have that this is already true of some of them, but our hearts will be satisfied with nothing less than every pupil of McTyeire School for Christ.

Trinity Day-Schools.

Miss Elizabeth Hughes has had oversight of what is known as the Trinity day-schools, Shanghai. There are eleven of them, five for girls and six for boys, with an itinerating patronage, as the coming and going is a marked feature of many Chinese day-schools. About five hundred and forty pupils were enrolled during the year, though not more than one hundred were present the entire year. A few of these have been regular in attendance as long as six years. One, a bright girl of sixteen, has just completed her seven years' work, and knows much of Christian truth with her other knowledge, and is well able to witness for Christ. School work is of an evangelical character, and encouraging because of this circumstance. Miss Hughes says the chief aim of the day-school work is to give the children the truth, and help them to note its great superiority over idol-worship.

The day-school pupils are not confined to Shanghai, as several came from Ningpo and Soochow during the year just closing, so the glimpses of truth they may have had, followed by God's Spirit, may go out with these children wherever they may live. Once in touch with Christian truth, they can never again be the same. To visit the homes of day-school pupils is often an opportunity of doing the parents good, though such visiting has serious difficulties to encounter. Often the mothers and sisters of these homes are too busy to be interrupted by visits; others are not well provided for receiving visitors, the one room of the house being restaurant or barber-shop. Mothers' meetings, however, are possible in some places, and parents and children are sometimes gathered at these. From time to time children will come out on the Lord's side, and take a decided stand for Christ. All except one of the eleven schools are within easy reach of our two churches, Central and Trinity. Three are located in Trinity Compound, one not far from the Anglo-Chinese College, opening up a very needy district. In Soochow to-day are two girls doing good work in our mission who were brought to Christ while pupils in the Trinity day-school, and their mothers are Bible women. In Clopton School also are many bright and promising girls from the same schools. In the Anglo-Chinese College a boy who had attended one of these schools for six years, at the close of the spring term received two prizes for scholarship.

Under date of February 18 Miss Hughes writes:

> In readjusting the work recently, Miss Gary was put in charge of the

schools in Hongkew. Our native teachers need help and encouragement, as well as supervision. Those educated in our mission schools make the best teachers, and, as circumstances allow, we select such. Our new term opened well. Of the two hundred or more now in attendance, by far the larger number were with us last term, though we have many new ones. Many of the pupils seem quite determined to be Christians in spite of opposition. Two little boys, whose names are on the probationers' list, came a short time ago to talk with me about joining the Church. They were quite in earnest; but, as they were very young, I advised them to wait a while longer. I was quite touched yesterday when one of these boys got up in the class-room and said very seriously: "When may I be baptized?" A little girl in the same class stood up for Church-membership while I talked to the boy. One of the most encouraging features of this department of work is the large number of girls who attend our schools. In the early days, although special inducements were offered, very few came. We have evidence day by day that our "labor is not in vain in the Lord."

The report of Clopton School, by Miss M. B. Bomar, is as follows:

The special object of Clopton School is to prepare girls for practical work as teachers, as well as spiritual guides for their own people. We can by no means receive all the candidates that apply. In order to retain only such as are promising, we give a six months' trial before accepting a young woman. Our hearts ache to refuse any, and we long for the day when we may have in connection with this school an industrial department.

The present building, situated as it is in a long narrow space between Trinity Chapel on one side and a long row of Chinese houses on the other, is unsuitable for the work any way. The main class and work rooms are poorly lighted, cold in winter, and intensely hot in summer. The dining-room, some fifty yards across an open court, is much too small for present accommodations. It has been necessary to turn one of the wing rooms of Trinity Home into a school dining-room. The servants' quarters are almost past living in, and will not stand many more years. We are longing to have Trinity Home and the school under one roof. It would be best for the school in many ways.

In Clopton School love and interest deepen with the passing years. What intense interest, what anxious care, and loving thought springs forth from day to day, as we watch in each pupil the development of different phases of character! The school is worthy of all the loving care and thought that can be bestowed upon it. Taken as a whole, the girls are about the best in China. The atmosphere of the school is decidedly Christian, and the strongest characters are out and out for Christ. Many of the girls take a prominent part in our Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and the Epworth League is conducted solely by them.

One afternoon in each month, instead of the usual devotional meeting, an hour and a half is spent in sewing for the poor. It is a delightful season that we thus spend together working for the needy. The girls are not rich in this world's goods, and therefore their contributions are small, but their time is willingly and joyfully given.

For several months during the year Miss Sanders kindly undertook to instruct the girls in vocal music.

Our native teachers have done excellent work throughout the year. Mr. Ng, a teacher of long experience and undoubted ability, has won for himself and his pupils quite a reputation among the natives for thoroughness in the classical department. Miss Tsang (Mollie Carroll) has rendered invaluable service in the primary department. Unfortunately, she is not robust, and has to suspend work for a season. At such times the eldest pupil, Miss Dau, supported by the Selma Violets, takes her place. Miss Dau is a girl of fine character and much promise. Hers is an inquiring mind and will not be satisfied with merely a superficial knowledge of any subject. Her aim is to master whatever she undertakes. Her advancement both in classical Chinese and Western learning is beyond what any former pupil in Clopton School has yet attained. We hope to retain her as a teacher when her school course is completed. She will stand firm in whatever she believes to be right. Religion is to her not a mere form, but a deep conviction of the truth.

A former pupil of Clopton School, Mrs. Yun, now in Korea, spent several months as a boarder in the school this year. Just before leaving, she gave as a thank-offering to the school $25. During her stay she gave music-lessons free of charge to four pupils. Mrs. Yun is one of the most beautiful characters I have ever met. It was a benediction to have her with us. Her sister, Sannoen, who has been in the school for many years, left us in May to become a nurse in the Woman's Union Mission Hospital. We pray that she may minister to souls as well as bodies in her new work.

We thank God for his goodness to us throughout the year. His mercies have been new every morning and fresh every evening.

Mrs. A. S. Parker makes the following report of schools at Hongkew Station, Shanghai:

I have tried as far as my strength would allow to perform my duty daily. My mornings from nine to half past twelve and my evenings from seven to nine o'clock have been given to the work in the Anglo-Chinese College, to class work in the morning and helping the boys with their lessons during the evening study hours. I have had classes there in which I have been much interested, and have wished I could do more for the boys, get better acquainted with them, get into their homes and make friends with their mothers and sisters, and thus not only influence the women but get a greater influence over the boys themselves. Some of them are Christians, some inclined that way, others think it a very good thing but not convenient for them.

My afternoons have been given to four day-schools. These schools have been reported from quarter to quarter and also separately to their supporters. I have been able to visit each of them once a week.

School No. 1 occupies one of the rooms in the college compound, and has done well, having at the close of the summer term thirty pupils. I have been teaching English to those of them who pay fifty cents a month tuition, hoping thus to keep a class of larger boys, but as I found it was taking up

too much of my time I have this term gotten one of the Chinese teachers of the college to give them an hour or two every morning in English and arithmetic.

School No. 2 is taught by a young widow who has always had a goodly number of pupils and keeps a nice school. It professes to be a school for girls, but we find it very difficult in this part of the city to fill our schools with girls, so many of them are employed in the cotton and the silk mills.

School No. 3 last year proved a perfect failure, therefore the teacher was dismissed and the school closed, but was opened again after the New-Year with a new teacher, and at the summer vacation closed with forty pupils, who all passed creditable examinations. In this school English is taught.

School No. 4 has always been unsatisfactory. It was taught by a young woman who lacked energy and has never gotten more than ten pupils at a time. I have closed the school for the present.

At the request of the School-Book Committee I have revised and enlarged the arithmetic I printed several years ago, and it has been in use in all the day-schools. It is now printed in two volumes, making a cheaper and smaller book for use in the day-schools, and a larger and more complete one for the boarding-schools. I have also revised and had reprinted the zoology in Wen-li, and have to-day received the first instalment of proof from the press of a smaller work on map-drawing. Most of my work, though, on that was done a year ago, and I have been waiting (1) upon the Examining Committee, which is scattered all over China, to give them time to review in order to approve, and (2) in finding ways and means of having the maps properly printed. It will, I hope, soon be ready for use.

My desire has been to work among the women; but, besides our Sabbath afternoon service and our monthly missionary meeting, which has been held by the one Bible woman, Mrs. Dzau, there has been nothing done for them.

In our missionary society we have talked over the mission fields of the world, as well as our own field, and tried to stir them up to do more in giving the gospel to the people. We have raised over $14, and have decided to keep the money to furnish a room in the new church when it is built, to be used for a women's meeting room.

I feel that there is so much to be accomplished, so many more can be brought in, if I or some other foreign worker could go out and visit among the homes of the children and young men who are coming to the schools, and from them to their neighbors, but as I am now situated I have no time to give to that work.

Miss Steger's work is thus reported. During the first of the year she was compelled to desist from work and seek health in Japan. She writes:

Since my return I have been fully occupied, having my accustomed work in Clopton School and the charge of Palmetto Day-School. I can work and study without pain in eyes or head. Going out of the compound every day, which attendance at our day-schools demands, is very conducive to health.

I do not believe there is a more promising work in the mission than Palmetto School. God most wonderfully led the way to opening it up, and in preparing the hearts of the boys for the reception of the truth. It has been a joy to teach them, because of the rare privilege afforded of helping to form noble characters. I pray that God may enable me to fully measure up to the opportunity he has given me. I am trusting that all these boys may be induced to openly confess Christ, as they now secretly believe on him in their hearts. Since school opened there have been ten probationers, one of whom is a communicant. My schoolrooms are up-stairs, and Miss Hughes hopes to open another day-school in the lower rooms. We have had some very interesting women's meetings with our school, with promise of larger results.

Miss Johnnie Sanders' year has been profitably employed with the intricacies of the Chinese language and a large music class. In the music department two of her pupils assist her, one of whom promises to be very valuable, not only as a music-teacher but as a Christian worker. In particular, Miss Sanders' Sunday-school class, between thirty and forty in number, affords her great pleasure, and through the strength of grace divine she looks for success in her efforts to instruct these little ones.

Nantziang and Käding have never reported more favorably than now. Those fields have long had the fostering care and intelligent management of Miss Rankin, with whom Miss Ella R. Coffey is now associate and assistant. Miss Rankin writes February 25:

I am glad to report a wonderful increase of interest in spiritual things and growth in grace among the pupils. Last year was in many respects the best of the nineteen I have spent in China. There seemed less drudgery in my work and more of the Master's spirit of happy service. So many of the old pupils returned that classification was comparatively easy. A great saving of time and strength was thus effected, and the children responded cheerfully to the new order of exercises in the class-room. The Bible lessons seemed doubly delightful when mind and body were not strained to the utmost to meet the self-imposed tasks of the day. A pleasant change from the close confinement and wearying class work of the schoolroom has been the work among the women. This work is so closely connected with the schools that it really forms a part thereof. We meet every afternoon as a Bible class. The pastor's wife, the Bible women, and the older girls in the school, form the regular class. We study the Bible for an hour or more, and talk to all who come. Except on rainy days we have never been without attentive listeners. We find the interest deepening among all who attend. All Church-members take part in the readings. It is really touching to see old women who know a few characters reading the one verse they have been able to prepare. For nearly a year I have given two hours every Saturday to an industrial class, and the mothers of the children seem very proud of their attainments. More than one little girl is now wearing

gloves, scarfs, etc., of their own knitting. All of these are helps toward that dress reform so sorely needed. Seven of the girls are learning to play the organ, and I give that class half an hour every day. Fortunately their ambition does not lead them to aspire to anything beyond simple melodies. This year the Anglo-Chinese Department numbers fifty, and new ones coming in every day. The day-schools were full the first day, and there has been a steady demand for extra stools ever since. There seems more than enough work in these schools within our own compound to fill our hearts and hands.

Some one has said that a Chinaman can never learn how to teach, and, whether this is true or not, I know that none of those associated with me have learned the gift of imparting. All religious and scientific teaching must be done by a foreigner if it is to develop the mind and heart of the one taught. There has been a decided change in the attitude of the parents toward the schools during the past years. The pupils are allowed to remain in school much longer than formerly. To meet this forward movement on their part, if only half-way, we must extend our curriculum and give more time to these higher studies. These boys are really the hope of China. It is to them, rather than to the few who study English, that we must look for help in the political crisis now imminent. They are more truly of the people, and wield an influence impossible to those whom wealth and haughty bearing have alienated from the laboring classes. Although the minds of these sturdy youths are not able to grasp scientific or mathematical truths as readily as those from literary families, they are capable of development, and unless the Church gives them the advantages of higher education the last state of China will be worse than the first. There is almost universal desire for knowledge among the common people. If we do not use this opportunity, the world will enter and infidels take up, for the sake of money, the work that should be our service of love for Christ's sake. My life is a busy one, with about seventy-five pupils to look after. Geography, arithmetic, music, training four Bible women, and a class of ten or more in Bible study, besides being organist four evenings in the week.

Miss Coffey also reports:

We still have six schools, the same number as last year, but teachers and localities have been changed in two cases. In changing localities we lose many of the former pupils and gain some new ones. In the other schools we have many of the same pupils we had two years ago.

As far as possible class-rooms are made comfortable and attractive. Cleanliness is insisted upon, and each class-room is furnished with wash-pans, towels, soap, handkerchiefs, and combs.

During the year six of the girls have been baptized, and six have been taken away from school because they were becoming too deeply and actively Christians to please their parents. Four of these are permitted to visit the school; the other two I have not seen, but the Bible women have access to their homes.

In two of the schools the girls have a daily prayer-meeting, and all their childish quarrels, as well as all the more pleasant affairs of life, are carried

to this sacred court. Miss Rankin has given from one to two hours each day to a devotional service held for the benefit of the pupils and any visitors willing to remain. Besides this, she has given one afternoon each week to the industrial class. The results have been broader and deeper than our faith had expected.

All of the teachers except one are Church-members or outspoken Christians. They are required to do much that the foreign teacher formerly did. After a time they do better work for having been forced to think and act on their own responsibility.

The schools are the centers from which the Bible women work. Mothers, relatives, and friends, as well as strangers, are welcomed at any time, and the Bible women return their calls. Several women have become probationers, two have been baptized, four have learned to read the Bible. Literature has been distributed to those already able to read. Several higher class women have come in sedan-chairs, duly attended, asking for classical literature.

Mrs. R. A. Parker's women's meetings have been a stimulus to the Bible women in several departments of their work. The women visit our home and schools almost daily, and there are daily opportunities for talking with them. Many of them seem deeply interested.

Work among the women has been opened in the villages near Nantziang. We have not been able to be very systematic in this field. A promising school has been established.

My reception in these villages has been cordial, and the school was opened by request. The people always request me to talk to them and invite me to come again. Our home and schools are open to them, and many have visited us. Their feelings seem to be divided between amusement, wonder, and curiosity.

Sung-Kiang.

The following is the report of Mrs. A. B. Burke:

I found, before going to Sung-Kiang, that the Bible woman, Mrs. Zung, who had worked so faithfully among the women for nearly two years, was going to take up work in her own Church, the Baptist, in Shanghai. She was the only native woman helper in Sung-Kiang. The right kind of Bible women are not made to order, and I knew not where to look for another. I looked first to the Lord, and in answer to prayer Kwe Ta-ta from our Shanghai church was sent us.

I took up the work for women where Mrs. R. A. Parker left it off. The little weekly meeting begun years ago, held then in our Chinese reception-room, had outgrown its first quarters, and developed into two weekly meetings which had to be held in the church.

These meetings are an important factor in our work. They are attended by numbers of outsiders who are usually sought out and invited by the Bible women. Several mothers of our day-school children have attended with some regularity, and others have come often.

Those connected with woman's work know how dependent it is upon the

weather, because Chinese women are so poorly prepared to go out in the rain. Neither do many venture out if it be very cold or very warm.

About sixty meetings have been held during the year. The average attendance has been about twenty, making in all about 1,200 women who have heard the gospel through our meetings. The greatest number at any meeting was eighty-three; the smallest, three. But from this meeting of three, I hope we shall have reason to rejoice. An aged "Ta-ta" who was present is attending the meetings being held for our native Christian women during this Conference week. She seems an earnest seeker after the truth. In spite of the efforts made by her family to keep her away from us, she has persisted in coming. Though over seventy years of age, she is strong and active, with a clear, bright mind. She will probably be with us some time, learning more about the gospel.

Our meetings have been led alternately by Kwe Ta-ta and myself. We are trying to get all of our Christian women interested in helping others, and urge them to talk with those who attend after the regular exercises are over. The Bible women frequently accompany to their homes some of those who attend.

In the spring we felt very keenly the need of another Bible woman. I could not see all the visitors who came to our place, so many were turned away. Friends in Shanghai joined with us in praying for a supply of this need. In a short time Mrs. Waung, who can receive visitors and talk with them was sent to us. She goes to the church during part of the morning, and talks to patients waiting there. When there are no visitors she goes out in the afternoon visiting from house to house. This visiting constitutes Kwe Ta-ta's regular work.

These two Bible women have visited about six hundred and fifty homes this year. This number is not very large; but when the rainy days, the China New-Year days, the hot days, and the cold days have been remembered, the number of homes visited seems larger. It must also be remembered that Mrs. Waung did not come to us until the middle of May. I spend an hour every morning with the Bible women, teaching them the Bible, and talking over their work.

I am reminded here of a need felt this year. I wish very much that we had a course of study for our Bible women. I believe more and more in preparation for Christian work on the part of any who are to be regularly employed in it.

I praise God the work is moving on. Our first native Christian woman was received into the Church less than two weeks ago. It was a day of rejoicing in Sung-Kiang. Others are deeply interested. The prospects are bright, and our faith in God strong. We believe he has set before us "an open door which no man can close."

We have a small but live missionary society. It meets the last Friday afternoon of each month. The other Fridays of the month we have a class-meeting for our Christian women. The members of our missionary society are ten, counting Miss Haygood, who joins them all. Our collection of dues and thank-offerings has amounted to $9 this year. Our women also regularly pay their Church dues.

Day-Schools.

We have five boys' schools. There were a few girls in one of these. We had never been able to open a girls' school, because we had never been able to secure a proper teacher.

In December Miss Hughes came and made the rounds of all the schools. In January she returned and held the China New-Year examinations.

An important addition was made to our home and the Sung-Kiang work after the New-Year holidays. Miss Leveritt was sent to us. Though she has been studying the language principally, she has been a joy and help in every way. In the home, at our women's meetings, in the schools teaching the children to sing, and visiting in Chinese homes, she has found many opportunities for real service, and no opportunity has been too small for her notice.

After China New-Year, one of the schools was closed, and a girls' school opened in the native parsonage. This school has been taught by Kwe Nyang-nyang, the daughter of our Bible woman.

This school has exceeded my anticipations. We opened with seven girls; we now have twenty. Christian books are taught in the morning and needle-work in the afternoon. A few study some Chinese books during part of their working hours. We have lost but one pupil during the year. She was taken ill, and died in a few days. She had been under Christian influence only about six months. Though not a member of the Church, she had shown more courage than some older ones. When told to worship her ancestors, she had refused, saying: "It is not right." She did the best she knew.

Very differently did I look upon the death of this child from that of a teacher of one of our schools, the Columbus District School. This man came to us from the Presbyterian Church, where he had been a member several years. He belonged to the scholar class. He died suddenly in midsummer by taking opium. Upon investigating matters, he was found unworthy. A gloom was cast over us all, but even such afflictions teach useful lessons.

In March Miss Haygood spent two weeks with us, during which time she and I exchanged work, as three of the schools were about a mile distant from our place. She took my two schools close at hand, and other work, which left me free to visit those at a distance. Miss Gary gave us the month of April, and helped us much in the women's work.

The usual Christian books are taught, and are emphasized above Chinese books in every school we have.

McLain School is on our compound. The girls' school is near us. The Grenada District School is about a mile north of us, in the midst of a farming district. The James Fant is in the city, a mile east of our place. This and the Grenada District School we hope to make centers of work for women.

Eighty pupils have been received into these schools this year. Of that number, only five have stopped during the year. There are now four probationers from three different schools.

Our teachers are all Christians. The teacher of McLain School began as a pupil there, and was only a little heathen boy. The teachers are, for the most part, growing in spiritual things. Our school work is hopeful.

Miss Ella D. Leveritt, writing from Sung-Kiang, February 25, shows all the enthusiasm of a happy heart, conscious of God's approval, and being found worthy to be numbered among his laborers. The warm welcome she received on her arrival, over a year ago, touched her deeply and fixed her fellow missionaries at once in loving memories. After a few months' successful study of the language at Shanghai, by appointment she found herself at Sung-Kiang, assisting Mrs. Burke, the pastor's wife, in visiting and in conversing with the women as well as her limited knowledge of the language would permit. Her study of Chinese has not been to her the hard task she expected, but a source of pleasure which does not abate. Now that regular work is possible, she says:

I go to each school once a week and spend several hours while Mrs. Woung visits the homes. She and I go out about fifteen miles to hold a women's meeting, which is well attended. Many small towns around are open to us, if we only had time to visit them. I have a class of girls in Sunday-school who come from the "Florence Shell" Day-School, one of the very best schools we have at Sung-Kiang. The teacher of the Florence Shell School is Mrs. Kwa, daughter of Kwe Ta-ta, an earnest Christian and faithful teacher.

Soochow District.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Jennie Atkinson,
Miss Martha Pyles,
Miss Lizzie R. Martin,
Mrs. Julia A. Gaither,
Miss Susie E. Williams,
Dr. Margaret Polk.

The reports from the missionaries at Soochow give a faithful picture of the labors and methods of the force, as well as the hopeful condition of all the schools. Of the Soochow day-schools Miss Atkinson writes:

The dream of my life in China has at last been realized. I have felt that, in order for me to do my best work in reaching the people, I must live among them and adapt myself as nearly as possible to their ways of living. I have felt, too, that, in order to get the best results from day-schools in a city like Soochow, I must live nearer the schools, so that closer supervision would be possible and less strength expended in going to and fro. Therefore, after consultation with Miss Haygood, and permission from the Board, we, with advice and help from Brother Anderson, rented a Chinese house which claimed to be more than a hundred years old and is located somewhat to the west of darkest Soochow. Miss Martin and I moved in and gave the place a thorough antiseptic treatment, beginning February 28, before necessary repairs were complete. It must have seemed very strange to one so recently from the home land as Miss Martin was; but her pleasure and enthusiasm in thus coming in touch with the people was gratifying, and my heart thanked our Heavenly Father for so congenial a coworker.

We have seventeen communicants and twelve probationers connected with our work at this center, consisting largely of teachers and pupils. Closer contact with the natives has given us opportunities for entering into their every-day lives, for giving advice, instruction, and sympathy. The school work remains much the same as last year, and such changes as have been made are along the line of progress.

Of the twelve schools reported last year, Mrs. Gaither has charge of No. 1, and has moved it to the country. Nos. 2, 3, and 9 are taught in the compound with us at Zang Tsung 'Aung, and the closer supervision which it has been possible to give them has benefited in every way. Eleven schools are located at four centers, and all are convenient to some church.

As Mrs. Campbell located and helped to establish a number of these schools, it was especially gratifying to have a short visit from her recently, and to know that she approves of the progress made in them.

Miss Martin has helped very much in teaching English, talking to women, and in attending and directing school prayers. Many of the improvements which we have seen this year, both at Zang Tsung 'Aung and Sung Nga Zien, are due to her cooperation and timely suggestions. Our native pastor, Mr. Li, conducted a series of services in our little chapel, which resulted in good to the pupils. His earnest, gentle appeals brought seekers to the altar day after day; and when the meetings closed, eight boys and one woman became probationers. Three boys and one teacher have been received into the church this year. One other is anxious to enter, but must wait because of the opposition of his mother and sister.

We have this year organized a prayer-meeting for Sunday evenings for the benefit of teachers, Bible women, and older pupils, conducted by the teachers and myself. It is proving a means of grace.

Miss Martin has moved back into the mission compound, and has supervision of five schools from there. It was truly a disappointment to me not to have her remain in the work on this side of the city, for she has been a blessing both to me and the work, but the present arrangement seemed better.

Miss Williams has been living with me now for one month. She is studying Chinese and teaching some classes in English and making herself generally useful, sweet, and indispensable. She is so bright and cheery, and possesses the charming faculty of being able to win hearts and bless lives without seeming to make an effort.

We have many Chinese, devoted and faithful, who were heathen until they were past thirty, and have learned to read since they have entered the Church. There are several probationers, and quite a number who may be gathered in in the near future. One dear old soul is seventy-five years old, and, until last year, never knew anything but the worship of idols. She attends all the church services and women's meetings when the weather permits, always leaning on her cane. One of the Bible women has her take dinner with her on Sundays, in order to be nearer the church.

Of the Bible women at Zang Tsung 'Aung Miss Atkinson thus writes:

It gives me great pleasure to speak a few words concerning our Bible

woman's work at and around Zang Tsung 'Aung, in Soochow. I have greatly desired for many years that work should be done in the homes of our day-school children; but, with such a large number of schools, I have been unable to find time and strength for any more work, and I had no Bible woman. However, since moving to the new place in February, through Miss Haygood's thoughtfulness we have been supplied with three faithful Bible women, who have done good work.

We thought it almost necessary to have one Bible woman remain in the home and receive the neighbors and strange women who came. Mrs. Sung, wife of our head teacher at Zang Tsung 'Aung, and former pupil in Pleasant College, Miss Rankin's school at Nantziang, was appointed to take that position. She is being supported by the Elm Street Auxiliary, Nashville, Tenn. She does her duty faithfully and well, and often the women have come in crowds, every one receiving a pleasant welcome and kind words, mixed all along with the gospel of healing for their souls. There have been a good many days when no one has come, and sometimes only one or two have come, but she is faithful.

Mrs. Zak, supported by the Shreveport (La.) Society, has done much good work in visiting the neighboring women and the mothers of the school children. She has become quite well known in many of their homes, and by her gentleness and sympathy, which are ever characteristic of her, she breaks down prejudice, and other formidable foes to Christianity will fall in time.

Our other Bible woman, Mrs. Ng, supported by Grace Church Auxiliary Society, Atlanta, Ga., is also doing good work.

We have two meetings a week for heathen women, one at Zang Tsung 'Aung and one at Sung Nga Zien. We have had as many as sixty or seventy women present sometimes, and often forty or fifty.

Miss Martha Pyles, in her interesting report of East Side Boarding-School, over which she has had charge in Soochow for some years, gives an encouraging view of the condition, success, and prospects of the work. She says:

No specially brilliant achievements, but steady progress and more decided results marked the year. Knowledge is not gained by one enthusiastic bound. Acquiring such and molding character must depend upon careful, persistent effort, as well as upon God's sunshine and showers. In the conduct of the school the girls are brought along many industrial lines—such as sewing, cooking, cleaning house, making beds, which they have done willingly and cheerfully. The twenty-nine girls thus housed in a Christian home may be taught all the arts that make home what it is to us and show them the inferiority of heathen life. What may we not hope from the native girls trained in "East Side School" in the future of China?

Mrs. Julia Gaither gives the following report of her work:

I have some news of interest to tell you. Let me speak of the Davidson Memorial Bible College. Since it was opened it has never been in a more flourishing condition. We now have five women living in the home. One who was with us was sent to help Mrs. Fearn. It is a joy to know there is

a place where the poor Chinese women can come and hear the gospel from their own people. I teach the Bible women every day in the week from 8 to 9 A.M., except when I go itinerating. All the women in the home and some outsiders come in to listen. There are two or more meetings held in the home every week. The native pastor preaches once a week, if possible, and since he has some help we expect preaching every week without interruption.

When Sister Lambuth, from Japan, was visiting her daughter, Mrs. Park, she led a meeting for us. It was a meeting "long to be remembered."

When Dr. Allen was in Soochow, a short time before leaving for America, I invited him to come and talk to the women in the Davidson Home. I wish I had his talk on paper "*for the Woman's Advocate.*" I am certain that it would interest every one.

Miss Haygood has not been able to visit Soochow since the first meeting of the Bible Institute was held. The thought of having this meeting first found place in her mind and heart, and the lessons she gave the women on the work of the Holy Spirit and Christian fellowship surely will bring forth fruit.

At Waung-daung, a village about fifteen Chinese miles from Soochow, I have a day-school and a nice chapel. It is hoped to make this a center from which to begin work for the women. There are only two Christians in the place, the teacher and his wife. Some difficulties must be expected in opening new work. The teacher is very hopeful, and seems satisfied that the school will be much larger this year. In the meeting the people behave nicely; they are not noisy like they were when the school was first opened.

It was touching to see this dear little school when they came to Soochow on Christmas day. We had a sweet little service for them in the chapel of Davidson Memorial College. Nearly all the children were present, and several of the mothers. In the afternoon I went with them down to the boat. As the boat was about moving off the teacher remarked: "It will take two boats to bring us next year." There are many villages around Soochow where crowds of men, women, and little children may be found with no church, no preacher—not even a day-school.

Our missionary society is doing well. It was organized on the 7th day of December, 1896. From that time to the present we have collected $50.90. We have fifty members. We are beginning to use the funds to help pay the salary of the assistant native pastor, and he is to have a regular appointment to preach in the chapel at Waung-daung.

The probationers' meeting is held on Sunday from 2 to 3 o'clock, P.M. This meeting is largely attended; but it is very difficult, among so many idol-worshipers, to know who really are inquirers. If an idol-worshiper is convinced that idol-worship is false, believes in the true God, and comes to the meeting, it is well to write her name down, visit her, and help her. But it is by no means certain that she will become a Church-member. She may go back the next week and worship her idols again. Especially if she should have any trouble, she would be apt to think it had happened because she had forsaken her idols.

What a joy to know the Holy Spirit is in the world, and with such a

Teacher how quickly hearts can be turned to the Lord their God! We can trust Him who loves the heathen of China far more than we can ever do.

I must tell you about one of the probationers, who had been quite unwilling to come out and join the Church because others would see her. She was taken very sick, and then said she felt and wanted help. She confessed how badly she had treated her mother-in-law. A change came over her, and she wanted to join the Church. She was willing for all the people to see her. Brother Hearn and the native pastor went to her house, and she was received into the Church. She has attended the Bible Woman's Home several times, and is holding out faithfully, so far as I can know. The Bible women seemed to be much interested in her.

Report of Miss Lizzie R. Martin.

The record of my first year in China is not a record of mighty deeds. The monotony of the study of Chinese for the first few months was broken by meeting our missionaries, also many of other boards from different parts of China, by attendance upon the meetings conducted by Mr. Mott, by the meeting of our Conference in Soochow, a visit to Misses Coffey and Rankin in Nantziang, and finally, the Christmas holidays. In February came the China New-Year vacation, after which I was moved from McTyeire Home, Shanghai, to Zang Tsung 'Aung, Soochow.

My study still continued during the morning hours, and for a little time in the afternoon. A little more than an hour of the afternoon was given to helping Miss Atkinson, by hearing the English classes in the school here; a half-hour was given to prayers at Sung Nga Zien; and the rest of the afternoon to helping one of the Bible women as she received the Chinese friends.

Some cards were especially helpful in this last work. Scripture texts were written on each card, and the text was learned by the friend to whom the card was given. We used in this way more than three hundred cards. If any good results from my having spent this year in China, to God belong the honor and the praise.

Hospital and Medical Work.

Following is the report of Dr. Margaret Polk, who has charge of the Woman's Hospital and the Mary Black Memorial Hall, a hospital for children:

A year or more ago I entered upon my work. To say I did it tremblingly would not reveal half the truth, but time passed and I was able to call all the hospital girls by name. When I knew them and through them the workings of the hospital, I began to find traces here and there of the conscientious, good work of my predecessors. Here Dr. Philips spoke through the work, showing the good foundation she had laid, and I felt glad that Dr. Philips had preceded me. Here and there Mrs. Campbell was seen and felt in the good and faithful work she had done in the house, the hospital, and among the girls; while everywhere Dr. Walter's hand appeared in the enlargement of the property, in the medical education of the girls in new, up-to-date methods of work. I feel very thankful to be able to say my lines have fallen to me in pleasant places, because of *past* good work.

The hospital has been running on the same plan I found it as nearly as I could do so. I found two young ladies in the hospital who had been educated in medicine and in English. These two young doctors, Yu and Zak, are bright, progressive girls, capable and willing. There were five other girls learning nursing and such other practical lessons as I could give them. Two of these girls were here for only two years training for work in the new Presbyterian hospital. Their time having expired, they left in August for their new field of work, carrying with them our best wishes, for they were good girls. The first of the year I lectured on the bones of the body, taught bandaging, giving an hour each day in English.

Dr. Yu went from us to her new home in Korea with Mrs. Campbell. Some day when the results demand a history of our medical work Ling Tsu's name will often appear on its pages, for she has been thoroughly identified with it, having been on the ground at its opening, and having given the best effort of her young life to its advancement. She came to it a young girl, and the hospital has done much for her in that it has been the means by which she has stepped into the possibilities of a useful womanhood.

Mo Nyang Nyang, who has been the Bible woman and general business manager for years, has continued to be my Bible woman, business manager, middleman, adviser, and friend. Her working-hours as Bible woman are not limited, but her preaching to the clinic patients is done pricipally from nine in the morning to two in the afternoon. Dzau Siau Tsia has been semi-invalid and semi-Bible woman in our wards this year. When she is not feeling well she goes under, but when she comes out it is like sunshine after a cloudy winter morning. My plan for her work was that she teach the ward patients and when they go out get their names and addresses, and notify the Bible women of their whereabouts.

The number of patients treated from October to the last of July is *four thousand*, with about *four hundred* operations. Some of these operations were of a serious nature, but the majority of them were minor. The receipts have been about $2,700, while the expenses have been about $2,400. The expenses above the running expenses have been chiefly repairs, furniture, and drugs. The repairs have been expensive, as two chimneys had to be built, roof had to be repaired every sunshiny day after a rain, the wards had to be painted, the boat had to be put in order, and other minor repairs attended to.

I would not close my report without thanking the friends who have made my year so happy. Miss Atkinson, my first friend, who stood between me and the world for the first few months and helped me in every way; Mrs. Gaither and Miss Pyles, who took me in a stranger and fed me when I was a hungered, and made life bright by daily intercourse; and Miss Haygood, who has been the recipient of all my tales of woe, and has been patient and helpful.

The hospital and I together have ten servants, and besides there are four young ladies, three of whom are studying. The eldest of these three young ladies graduated under Mrs. Dr. Fearn. The circumstances are such that a course in medicine here must be limited, since we can not have laboratory

or dissecting facilities, but the education given is an inestimable help to the physician in charge. This young girl does an immense amount of work, since she understands English and speaks it a little, so she stands between me and the outside world. Last night I went in on an interesting scene. Around a table sat all the women servants of the house, seemingly vying with each other as to who could speak the loudest. On going a little closer you would have found that all but two had a book with large characters memorizing them by crying them aloud. Some were half through the book, some were only at the beginning; yet they did not seem to bother each other at all. The other two were memorizing the Bible. They belong to Miss Zak's night-school, the brightest scholar of whom is very proud to be allowed to sing her characters out to me when I walk in on them.

On a certain occasion I sent out invitations to the rich men, whom we knew of, to come in and inspect the Mary Black Memorial Hospital, as I wanted patronage from that class of people for that department. Quite a number came, among them three district magistrates of the city. It happened to be the anniversary of the death of one of their emperors, so they could not come in the usual style, but they had a long line of followers, most of whom had on tall caps like a clown in a circus, and they themselves were dressed in handsome fur from head to foot. They expressed themselves as being much pleased, and I hope for results. Three days afterward I invited the ladies of the same families, and notwithstanding it rained all day, the sun room, where we received them, was a perfect flower-garden of bright colors, and the women and children looked very pretty. They all wore silks, as did their children, and their head-dresses were elaborate as well as beautiful. The children's head-dresses are not so pretty.

The hospital is lovely. In the front ward are eight beds, each bed of black iron, on which is a tick of straw, two sheets, a blanket, white spread, and a straw pillow. Between each bed is a stand with a drawer in it and a chair beside it. In the middle of the room is a table, and at one end is a screen, while at the other is a comfortable chair, and on the wall a large picture of Mrs. Black. You see the funiture is cheap and simple, but the room is lovely. The next ward is exactly similar, only it has Mrs. Bonnell's picture in it. The long hall has only some tables and chairs and the stairway, and opens at the back into the large sun room, which we hope to make life-saving, as we have no fires in winter, and the sun heats this room beautifully. On the side of the hall are private rooms, the bath-room, the drug-room, and, just in front, the recitation-room. The private rooms all have a stand with a small mirror, chair, a stool, and two beds. One bed is arrayed with curtains, Chinese style, and the other bed for the servant is a common Chinese bed. The whole effect is very lovely, but to get the Chinese to appreciate it is another matter.

I went often to see the wife of the son of an official here in the city, and I begged her to come to me; but she said she could not, for her mother-in-law did not allow her to go out of the house for any purpose whatever. The women marry young, and many live to old age; so, often, before a young woman can reach a decision, she has to ask her mother-in-law, who in turn has to ask her mother-in-law, who has to ask yet another mother-in-

law! The children are worse off, since they are under their mother's mother's mother-in-law, and, if betrothed, must consider their own future mother-in-law!

The clinics at the hospital have increased greatly this year, and the outlook is encouraging.

STATISTICS OF MISSIONS IN CHINA.

Boarding-schools	3
Missionaries, including one medical	18
Wives of missionaries	5
Day-schools	45
Helpers and native teachers	53
Pupils under instruction	1,192
Christian pupils	35
Bible women	25
Scholarships	72
Hospitals	2
Physician	1
Native physicians	2
Patients treated	17,695
School-buildings owned by the Board	5
Rented school-buildings	19
Value of school property	$33,600
Bible College	1
Value of hospitals	12,500
Value of boarding-school property	20,000
Value of Bible College	3,000
Total value of property owed by the Woman's Board in China	$69,100

KOREA.

This interesting field has promise of great returns for the small appropriation of last June. Mrs. Josephine P. Campbell reports:

I arrived in Korea on the 9th of October, so I am not prepared at this annual meeting to write of what I have done, only a sketch of what I have seen.

We arrived at eight o'clock in the evening, and were ushered into a typical Korean house. I felt truly that we had gone back to the old Saxon days that we read of in story. It is a one-story tiled-roof house, with the eaves far overlapping the building. The house would necessarily have a very low ceiling if there were one; but instead, just under the tiles, there are good-sized poles running from eaves to ridge-pole, a foot apart. The spaces between are plastered with sand, and papered with a strong white paper made for the purpose. The poles are usually a chocolate color. Besides these poles there are great heavy beams a foot in diameter, running from eave to eave diametrically across the room eight feet apart, giving a very primitive appearance to the dwelling. The walls are made of mud and straw, dried, and papered with the same white paper.

This was all taken in at a glance after our welcome to the home of Dr. and Mrs. Reid, which I assure you was warm and cordial. After a night's rest and a wholesome breakfast, Dr. and Mrs. Reid and myself went out to take a view of the premises, which are beautifully located.

The surrounding scenes are fine, and the property is very valuable, comparing with other property in the city, and is increasing in value, from a business standpoint, daily. It will never be a loss to the Church. There are three good building-lots on the ridge for dwellings, two belonging to the General Board and one to the Woman's Board. On the lower portion of the property adjoining the native settlement is the chapel and Dr. Reid's proposed summer school for his native workers. It has all impressed me as exceedingly satisfactory. Dr. Reid has done much to enhance the value of property, putting it in shape, taking away old ruins, and cleaning it out.

Our plan for the work under the Woman's Board is, as soon as a speaking vocabulary will permit, to open a class for women and girls, which we hope may be done doing the coming year. As yet we do not know just how it will be conducted, but the Bible will be the principal text-book. That work as a nucleus for other work, we hope to locate across the city, where we will be far removed from other mission work, and central to one of the most densely populated portions of the city.

Other missions have established work among the women, and as it is exceedingly encouraging, the opening seems good for us.

My assistant, Miss Yü, who is to work with me here in Korea, in a medical department and evangelical work, being an Oriental, is getting the lan-

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MRS. JOSEPHINE P. CAMPBELL.

guage much faster than I, and is therefore a great help to me. She and our Korean teacher both write the classical language, which is read by all students of both countries, China and Korea. In this way we get a more accurate meaning to our translations. She considers herself a missionary and is trusting to God and myself for support, asking nothing else. Holding something of the position of an adopted child, I am glad indeed to have her with me. We will want other workers to enter the open field as soon as the Board sees its way to send them to us. We *know* that God will call them as soon as the Church is ready to send them.

We are longing to see the Church on its knees for the conversion of Korea. If the Christian world could only, for themselves, see this heathen world as Christ sees it, our hearts would be quickened to duty, and it would not be what shall we eat, what shall we drink, and wherewithal shall we be clothed, but how can we save a soul for eternity?

Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Yun have a class for women that meets Sabbath afternoons, and from that class three women on last Sabbath put down their names as probationers.

Brother Collyer reports one convert through his wife's instrumentality in the city of Song-do.

April 18, 1898, Mrs. Campbell writes:

We find we will be able to move into the home at "Charcoal"—for that is the name as it sounds in Korean, for that section of Seoul—by August 15, next. We have graded the lot and have everything in fine shape, even to the excavation of an old wall which gives us most excellent hewn granite rocks for the foundation of any building the Board may see fit to put up hereafter. Some of these stones would cost $12 or $15 each. The wall had gone to ruin, and we were compelled to remove it. There is not a more beautiful building site in this city.

Our way is opening up very satisfactorily. I have material for a good beginning in a day-school. Two or three have applied as teachers, but we have not as yet made a choice. The room is ready, or will be in a few days. The oiled paper is yet to be put on. The Koreans all paper their little eight by eight rooms, including floors, and they are not ready for occupancy until that is done.

Another school is ready to be opened at Koyang, a place about twelve miles distant from here, and an excellent woman ready to take it. We think the people will furnish the school-room. I will go down (or up) to the place soon, to look into the matter; and if possible, open a class for women there. We want to be very careful in opening up work. Dr. Yü has had sixty patients already without turning her hand or saying a word to induce them to come. I am sure she will have her hands full when we start into country work.

MEXICO.

MEXICAN BORDER MISSION CONFERENCE.

Woman's Board Commenced Work in 1881.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Nannie E. Holding,
Miss Delia Holding,
Miss Edith Park,
Miss Lelia Roberts,
Mrs. A. E. McClendon,
Miss Laura V. Wright,
Miss Esther Case,
Miss Annie Churchill.

Since our last annual meeting the Board opened work in the City of Mexico. The Keener School, a day-school of some years' standing in which numbers of Mexican children had been taught the ordinary branches of a common school education, as well as the truths of the Bible, was placed, by the action of the General Board and the ladies of Carondelet Church, New Orleans, under the Woman's Board, and Miss Hardynia Norville put in charge. Miss Norville was well equipped for the responsible position, and immediately entered upon the duties of her office, assisted by the native teachers, who had been serving the school. After the difficulties of securing a suitable building had been met, the success of the school was assured. The rapid increase in pupils was phenomenal, and the limits of the building taxed to its utmost capacity. The demand for assistance was imperative, and as Miss Lelia Roberts was restored to health, and ready to return to Saltillo, Miss Annie Churchill went to Miss Norville's assistance. Prosperity has marked the other mission stations, and additions to the teaching force were necessary. The accommodations have not been large enough to take in all the pupils that applied. At Chihuahua the call for a day-school in the upper part of the city was met by a gift of a plat of ground by the governor, upon which it is hoped a suitable building will soon go up, part of the money having been already secured. In the mean time the school was opened in a rented room and soon filled with pupils.

A year ago there was only one Bible woman at work under the auspices of our mission; now there are thirteen. These women are carrying on evangelistic work helpful both to Church and school. Entering the homes, mingling freely with the women and children, they tell them of the good things of God, awaiting their acceptance.

MAP OF
CENTRAL & SOUTHERN
MEXICO.
GULF OF MEXICO
PACIFIC OCEAN
NEW ORLEANS TO VERA CRUZ 815 MILES.
BAY OF CAMPECHE
Bay of Tehuantepec
ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC
SONORA
CHIHUAHUA
COAHUILA
NUEVO LEON
TAMAULIPAS
SINALOA
DURANGO
ZACATECAS
SAN LUIS POTOSI
JALISCO
GUANAJUATO
QUERETARO
HIDALGO
MEXICO
MICHOACAN
GUERRERO
OAXACA
CHIAPAS
TABASCO
CAMPECHE
YUCATAN
GUATEMALA
LOWER CALIFORNIA
GULF OF CALIFORNIA
TERRITORIO DE TEPIC
Guaymas
Alamos
Topolobambo
Sinaloa
Altata
Culiacan
Mazatlan
Tepic
San Blas
Guadalajara
Autlan
Colima
Manzanillo
Chihuahua
Jiminez
Durango
Lerdo
Torreon
S. Pedro
Parras
Patos
Saltillo
Venadito
Montemorelos
Sabinas
Allende
Felipe
Laredo
Nuevo Laredo
Corpus Christi
Brownsville
Rio Grande
Mier
Monterey
Pt. Isabel
Matamoros
Victoria
Tampico
Rayon
S. Maria
Cos
Fresnillo
Zacatecas
Salinas
Guadalupe
Aguas Calientes
Guanajuato
Leon
Silao
Acambaro
Patzcuaro
Morelia
Jungapeo
Zitacuaro
Toluca
Almoloya del Rio
Tlalpan
Tuxpam
Teloloapam
Ahuacuatitlan
La Mojonera
Xochipala
Tixtla
Chilpancingo
Cuicatlan
Oaxaca
Tehuantepec
Suchil
Minatitlan
Orizaba
Tehuacan
Puebla
Izucar
Pachuca
Jalapa
Tlacolulam
Misantla
Vera Cruz
Anton Lizardo
Tuxpan
El Barrio
Jacala
Zimapan
Quereteraro
Celaya
Cuyuahuac
Ozumba
Cuautla
Comalcalco
Cardenas
San Juan Bautista
Jalapa
San Cristobal
Quetzaltenango
Gautemala
Frontera
Campeche
Maxcanu
Acanceh
Merida
Progreso
Izamal
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MISS NANNIE E. HOLDING.

They induce them to send the children to school and attend church.

The following is the report of Miss Nannie E. Holding, Agent:

The adoption of the Keener School by our Board at the last annual meeting made it necessary for me to take in the City of Mexico in my round of visitation. Miss Norville, much to our regret, had been taken from the work at Laredo, and to our rejoicing, paradoxical though it may seem, placed in charge of the new field. I found her well, strong, and happy in the prospect of a full year, though she had already begun to realize some of the many difficulties attending the opening of new work. In one sense, our entering the city may not be considered new, yet difficulties seemed to mark every step of the way for the first two months, one of which was in trying to secure a suitable house properly located. Finally one which met all requirements except location was obtained, and the Keener School was again started upon its own basis. Some pupils were lost by removing the school from its old place, but not so many as we feared. Those lost were soon replaced, however, by many new ones; so, altogether, we felt there had been no mistake in putting the old school into the new place.

We found many well-equipped schools in the City of Mexico, both public and private, but not one distinctively Christian except the mission schools. With methods peculiarly our own, we may safely say, even at this early day, that we will find a large place of usefulness, which none other would have occupied. Moreover, we feel sure the Master will fit us into the place He has prepared for us in this great city given over to Romish idolatry. We have now quite a little band of Southern Methodists in the city: Brother and Sister King; Brother and Sister Carter; our own missionary, Miss Norville; and the efficient native pastor, Rev. Paz; besides a score or more earnest native Christians. Though my first stay in the city was prolonged much beyond the usual time I can give to a station, I returned for a few days' visit, and had the pleasure of realizing that the hope of having a home and school in the City of Mexico had become a verity. Over fifty pupils had entered, and two boarders sat at the table with us.

Upon my visit to Guadalajara I found Miss Wilson in trouble over the prospect of having to do away with the boys' school. The pastor who had so earnestly assisted her in this department had been moved to the City of Mexico, and no one had been found to take his place. We thought out several plans by which we might keep the boys, but were forced to give them up. On the following Friday Miss Wilson announced to the boys that she could not teach them any longer; they were loath to believe, and expressed much regret that they could not return. Early next week, however, a young man, whom Miss Wilson knew, came to her asking for the position of teacher of the boys. An agreement was soon entered into, and, much to the delight of all concerned, the boys' school reopened. The other departments were in running order. Miss Dorsey is still deeply interested in the little outside waifs. A much larger number than that of last year were taking dinner with her. I enjoyed seeing them at this noonday meal, seemingly forgetful of everything but the satisfaction of the moment. My visit to the woman's class was gratifying. Quite a large number were present interested in every feature of the work, sewing, reading, and singing. The

active little Bible woman was present, moving in and out among the women, comforting and cheering wherever she went. The Guadalajara work is growing, so much so that we are still casting longing looks at the patio next door, but that is as near as we come to possessing it. There would be a deal of rejoicing in the camp should the Board give it to us.

Miss McFarren was out from the Durango work on a six months' leave of absence, thus I lost the pleasure of seeing her. During her absence the mission was under Miss Tydings' supervision. Miss Carson has been principally in the school work, ably assisted by Miss Holderby, one of our early Kentucky volunteers. We were glad to welcome her again into the Mexican field. The school was just closing one of the most prosperous years known in its history when I reached there. I was in time to witness the closing exercises, which took place in the presence of a large, appreciative audience. I also had the opportunity of seeing the children busily engaged finishing up their school work for the year. There is something inspiring in the eagerness with which children finish up given tasks, to make way for something new. Miss Carson left for her own home a few days after school closed. Miss Tydings and Miss Holderby reopened the following Monday in order to meet the demand for a summer vacation instead of winter. The new Governor of Durango is much more liberal than any previous one; therefore Protestants have more liberty. We feel ground has been gained, which we shall try to hold. The missionaries are full of zeal to advance on every line. I did not have time to see the woman's class, but Miss Tydings spoke of it encouragingly.

Owing to a severe attack of illness while at Chihuahua, I did not see so much of the school work there as I desired. My one visit to the schoolrooms showed the classes full, and moving forward systematically. The number matriculated goes far ahead of any former year. I visited with Miss Lizzie Wilson the ground given by the governor to Colegio Palmore for the establishment of a North Chihuahua school. It is a beneficent gift, and finely located for the purpose intended. The school is already in operation, in a rented building. Our missionaries are looking forward with much hope to this new branch of work, even though it means more labor and more care. The family at the Colegio is a large, interesting one, numbering about seventy, the second largest of our mission homes. The wear and tear of so large a number begins to tell upon the buildings, and vacation will not come too soon for needed repairs. I sometimes wonder if mothers can take more pride in their growing families than missionaries in our growing homes. There is something lovely to us in the steady coming, coming of the new children. Pardon this digression, but thoughts will wander to the time when a "little flock" was our all. How wonderfully a thing grows when touched by the Master's hand!

Our "little jail worker," as we used to call him, Servando Esquivel, is now one of the teachers at Colegio Palmore, and the missionaries report him earnest and faithful in the discharge of every duty. I thought as I saw him, so happy and interested in his work, that sometimes the reaping follows quickly upon the sowing, and we were permitted to see the fruit of ur labors in this life.

On account of delay in Chihuahua I could give but a short time to San Luis and Saltillo. Miss Toland and Miss Blackburn were full of hope and plans for advancement. There is something cheering and uplifting in the very word "advance;" sometimes just to utter it sends one speeding on the way. The intention of the General Board to open medical work in San Luis Potosi has given an impetus to the mission cause which nothing else could have equaled except a mighty outpouring of the blessed Spirit.

To enlarge the Colegio and make a boarding-school seems imperative. The day-school crowds every nook and corner of the present building. No one can question for a moment the more abiding effect of work done in the home as compared with that of the day-school. Miss Toland had plans on foot for opening a school in another part of the city, supporting it herself. Brother and Sister Mood are supporting one in a near Indian village. Thus the work broadens. Miss Blackburn, with native helper, is giving much time to house-to-house visiting. We are trusting to have Miss Roberts again at Saltillo not many days hence, as she is nearly well. Miss Case and Miss Churchill, our new missionary, have carried forward the work well during Miss Roberts' absence. Miss Churchill is devoting herself to the language, in which she is making rapid progress, and at the same time is faithful to the interest of her school work, besides rendering assistance in other departments. The school is well attended, and quite a number of children live in the home. Miss Case has borne well the responsibility placed upon her while Miss Roberts is away, carrying forward every branch of the work with unabated interest.

Though my annual round was made in some weariness of flesh, I returned home much encouraged and strengthened in spirit. At our last annual meeting only one Bible woman was reported as being regularly engaged by auxiliaries or individuals; we have now three at Laredo, one at Saltillo, three at Chihauhau, two at Guadalajara, one at San Luis Potosi, two at Durango, and two at Mexico. This branch of the work gives promise of wide influence. We are told of a number who have been brought to give willing attention to the reading of the Word. Total number under instruction in Mexican work, 2,139.

Report of Laredo Seminary.

"In everything we are enriched by Him." As these words come to me, just as I put the pen to paper to write the annual report, I can not but stop to take in the completeness of the text and try to realize the appropriateness of the "everything" in the attempt to report a work which is so entirely the Master's own, and above all to realize my own insufficiency in the doing of it. The "everything" this year takes in much care, much perplexity, much sickness—including long sieges of fever—many trials to mind and body and spirit, giving many lessons in patience and forbearance, and making many opportunities for the exercise of gentleness. Overshadowing all, mercy and love, giving us the trust that being "enriched" in the "everything" will surely be the reward of the lessons learned.

Early in the year we attended our annual meeting, returning from it strengthened and encouraged by the social and spiritual intercourse. There is nothing new to report in Laredo Mission; there have been very few

changes in faculty, and none in methods of work. To me the removal of Miss Norville marked the principal event of the year. In all the long years of my mission work I have never gotten used to the going away of the old helpers and the coming in of the new, at the time forgetting that the new will soon become as dear as the old, though it may be in a different way, the heart and the life expanding to take all in. Miss Wright, our new missionary, soon became accustomed to the management of the Bible classes, while Miss Fisher and other willing helpers assumed other duties which had devolved upon Miss Norville, thus causing the work to move on without a break; and we learned to rejoice in the thought that another Christian home had been established for Mexican girls, and that Miss Norville was the right one to help build it up. We learned to be grateful for the six years' intercourse we had enjoyed, and trustingly bade her Godspeed in the new fields.

Though all of the departments of Laredo Mission have moved upon the same basis as heretofore, from one or two causes our statistics fall short of last year, and we are able to report only 780 pupils as against something over 900. The cause of this shortage may really be considered a matter of encouragement, rather than to the contrary. The schools have been full—in fact, crowded right along; but the same children have been so prompt in attendance, and have stayed by us so steadily, we could not make room for new ones, and were compelled to turn many applicants away, really a large number beyond the enrolment of last year.

Faith Hall Sunday-school has been unusually full, and the children, as a rule, seemingly interested. We labor under great disadvantage in not being able to give a clear idea of the extent of spiritual impressions or to report satisfactory results. During the year we have had a large Catholic element; the children are slow to come out on the Lord's side, because of family influence and the persecution to which they are subjected as soon as it becomes known that they are leaning toward Protestantism. The register of Faith Hall shows a membership of 175, including teachers and helpers, but we are rarely able to count more than 60 actually present. Our Protestant children leave us faster than the new converts fill up the broken ranks. Our constant trust in our difficult work is in the promise of the Father that his word shall not return unto him "void." He alone is able to "give the increase," and we feel sure that he will remember the sowing which has been done in faith and tears.

The vacation school work carried on at the seminary was much larger than ever before. There were not less than seventy in family during the entire summer, and but for the large influx of the August opening we would scarcely have known the resting-time from that of the busy year.

The usual routine of day-school work has gone on without a break. I have left the Nuevo Laredo school almost entirely in the hands of Miss Ford, our helper from Kentucky. She reports to me from time to time, so that I keep in touch with it. In addition to the daily Scripture-reading and memorizing of the text, the study of the Sunday-school lessons has been introduced as the work of one afternoon. No regular time could be appointed, because when tried the children began falling away on that special after-

noon. Now, when the school is full, school-books are laid aside and the precious lessons taken up. There seems to be no objection when caught "by guile."

I reported last year the removal of the Arroye Zacote school to the center of the city, to take in the boys. This school was kept open six months in this connection. I then employed the teacher, who was a former pupil, as one of the seminary native helpers.

Toward the close of the year our hearts were startled and troubled by the serious illness of Mrs. McClendon. The removal of this dear worker, though temporary, was felt as a serious loss. The school under her care has been full. Miss Thomas, with the native helper, carries on the school during Mrs. McClendon's absence.

I have not been able to keep up the woman's class with the same constancy. After Mrs. Catchings left us, there was no one who could be spared from regular duties. The number in regular attendance fell away during my two months' absence in Mexico, and I can report only 52 now. Most of these are old, faithful ones, who are becoming fixed in Christian faith.

One of the features of the work during the year has been committing to memory, not only texts and portions of Scripture but entire Psalms. Some of these women who scarcely know how to read have spelled out the hard words, and in this way have learned from twenty to twenty-five Psalms. When they would repeat them to me with such intense earnestness, I could not help feeling some condemnation and saying to myself: "The pupil has gone ahead of the teacher."

This branch of the work has been divided into two classes. The Friday afternoon class is held in the West End schoolrooms, where I have the help of Lola, our West End teacher. I sometimes feel I am not half grateful enough for this little native helper, who has grown up in our midst, learned our methods, and is giving her life to the service of the Master.

Report of Miss Laura V. Wright.

I reached Laredo, my field of labor, August 27, in the midst of a storm, which made my arrival somewhat depressing; but the welcome at the depot by Miss Park was reassuring. At supper I met Miss Holding and the other teachers, from whom I received a warm greeting, which made me feel quite at home.

The following week I began teaching the Scripture history classes. The first day was spent in enrolling my pupils and trying to become familiar with their names—such queer names, I thought. I found many of the children entirely ignorant of the blessed truths of God's Word, some of them having come from homes where the Bible is a closed book. I am trying to open up its blessed pages, and as I go forth daily to my work the blessed promise comes to me: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

I study the language daily, and long to be able to speak it. The jail work was turned over to me in November. Senorita Plata and I visit the jail every Sunday afternoon. The prisoners seem eager to hear, and take de-

light in memorizing verses from the Bible. I pray that God will bless our efforts.

Report of Miss Edith A. Park.

The time has come to give an account of my second year's work as a missionary among the people of Mexico; a year full of work, full of trials, and full of blessings. During the year we have enrolled 53 boys, 13 day-pupils, and 40 boarders. Of the fifty-three, six are Church-members and nine have professed Christianity. Twenty-eight are from Protestant families. Since the opening of this term one new pupil has openly confessed Christ. When asked if he was satisfied with his experience he replied: "My heart says that it is all right."

During the summer Señorita Plata and I carried on the work at the jail, which had been in Miss Norville's hands. Now Miss Wright has charge. Señorita Plata and I also attended during the summer the little West End Sunday-school. This was not only a great pleasure to me, but gave me confidence in the use of the language, so that when school reopened in August I was able to take a class of Spanish-speaking children. One of the boys who came to us in September objected at first to taking one of our Bible lesson papers, saying he was not a Protestant; now he has a Bible of his own and delights in it.

In the school I have had during the year eight pupils in art, taught four classes in penmanship, and two in Scripture history.

Another of our boys, who was compelled to leave school the first part of last session to help support his father's large family, wrote to me some months ago that he had organized a Sunday-school in the neighborhood composed of his own family and those from the near ranches. He said that he had known for some time that he ought to do this, and now was so happy because he had obeyed. He met with opposition from the priests, who told the people they must not attend the Sunday-school, but in spite of this he labored on. He himself had found the "pearl of great price," and must tell others of it. "Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

Saltillo.

The following is from Miss Esther Case:

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." The meeting with our own missionaries at our annual meeting in January, and with so many Christian workers of all denominations in the General Assembly which met in the City of Mexico at the same time, was a time of spiritual refreshing which made a helpful beginning for the work of the year. We were then almost in the middle of our term of school, and the work in all of our departments doing well. In May it was necessary for Miss Roberts, who had worked so long and faithfully here, to take a rest. It was hard to give her up and harder to miss her wise direction; but we could not object, since it was so serious a question as that of health. When Miss Roberts left, her sister, Miss Mattie, who was teacher of our primary department, went with her; so the work suffered many changes, although within only two months of the close of the term. I took Miss Roberts' part of the work; and with the help

of three teachers, each of them teaching one hour a day, we did that of the primary department without employing another teacher.

Miss Churchill, our new missionary, came to us from Chihuahua, and relieved me by taking the English classes and helped in many other ways besides. She is faithful and true in both work and study, and is acquiring the language very rapidly. I remained in Saltillo during vacation, and was busy getting everything in order for the opening of the new term in September.

During the year we enrolled 130 pupils in the pay school, 74 in the charity school, and 63 women in the woman's class. A few children did not return to us in September because they "did not know how the school would get along without Miss Roberts;" but new ones have come to fill the vacancies, so the enrolment is almost the same as last year and the attendance is better. Our teachers are doing good work.

The charity school has been unusually full this year, and the children of this department attend Sunday-school more regularly than do those of the pay school.

Matilde H. de Osuna (M. L. Paine Bible woman) is a tireless worker in the harvest-field of our Lord, and has already gathered sheaves of golden grain. The husband and father of a family who was converted and joined the Church through her influence died triumphantly, and the family have borne their bereavement like true Christians should.

The attendance in the women's class has been poor at times, owing to my inability to visit the women often and also to the fact that they have had a great deal of sickness in their families.

During Conference we had the pleasure of having Bishop Duncan, Dr. Lambuth, six missionaries of the Parent Board, and several Mexican brethren as guests. They gave us much spiritual help.

The girls in the home are all members of the Church but one. One girl wanted to join the Church, and her mother took her away from us and put her in another school; a day-pupil was also put into a Roman Catholic school because she was becoming interested in the Protestant religion. One little girl ten years old, a day-pupil, is a true Christian and wants to unite with the Church; but her grandmother tries to discourage her by telling her that she is too young to know what she is doing, that when she is twelve years old she may do as she likes. A wealthy friend of the family is very fond of the child, and tells her that she will leave her her fortune if she will promise not to become a Protestant. The little girl said to her one day: "I have a fortune that no one can take from me." One of our girls is organist for the Epworth League, and often plays the organ for our chapel service at the opening of school in the mornings. They are all ready to lead in prayer or take any active part they can in the League and prayer-meeting services as well as in family worship.

Report of Miss Annie Churchill.

On the 4th of last May I received word from our Secretary to go immediately to Saltillo and help Miss Case during Miss Roberts' absence. I reached Saltillo on Friday of the same week. My work was the English classes, of which there were six each day, one lesson of a half-hour for each

grade. Besides the English, it fell to my lot to sing with the children of the charity department every day. They enjoy singing the hymns, and learn them readily. Since the beginning of the new term several have bought hymn-books, by paying a few cents at a time.

During vacation I went several times with Miss Case to visit the members of the sewing-class. In my study of the language I am unusually fortunate in having Brother Del Valle, our pastor, for my teacher. For several months my lessons with him were gratuitous. Four hours in school, three of study, and the time I devote to helping with the housework, fill the day. My class in Sunday-school is an interesting one composed of ten girls and one boy.

The work grows dearer to me every day, and I trust I may be the means in my Maker's hands of helping the people of Mexico to a better and truer life.

NORTHWEST MEXICAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Lizzie Wilson, Miss Ellie Tydings,
Miss Lucy Harper, Miss Kate C. McFarren,
Miss Hattie Gere Carson.

This Conference embraces Durango and Chihuahua, two interesting cities, in which the mission schools under the Woman's Board greatly prosper. As Miss Kate C. McFarren, for some years the Principal of MacDonell Institute, seemed in need of change and rest and asked for permission to visit her home for a few months, Miss Tydings was placed in charge, and continues to manage all business interests connected with the school. Miss McFarren returned greatly improved, but as she wished lighter work and Miss Tydings consented to bear the responsibility of management, Miss Tydings was retained as Principal. MacDonell Institute has never had a more prosperous year. Chihuahua also continues to advance in strength and favor.

Durango.

Miss Tydings thus gives account of her work in MacDonell Institute:

In reviewing the year's work we, as a school, can say: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." We believe the Lord is indeed answering our prayers and breaking down the wall of opposition that has so long surrounded us in Durango.

I don't mean that the priests have, by any means, ceased to work against us; but they can not always keep the people in darkness, and their eyes are being opened to the fact that the stories they hear of us and of our religion

are false. One family was surprised to find that we worship God, and another that we believe in the Holy Trinity; and children who were almost as afraid of us as of death, after being here a while, can scarcely be persuaded to stay at home long enough to have their dinner.

During the year we have had one hundred and thirty-three pupils, and among the number are many bright, interesting girls from sixteen to eighteen years of age. All of them come to us, instead of requiring us to go to them, as formerly. I now have only one outside pupil, and she is a married lady belonging to one of the most fanatical families here.

Only four of our pupils have openly confessed Christ and united with the Church during the year; but we've endeavored, by the help of the Spirit, to sow the seed by all waters, and we believe the harvest will surely come some time. We teach them the Bible daily in school, and the majority attend our Sunday-school also.

Miss McFarren went home in July to spend six months, and since then I have had a most interesting Bible class, consisting of about fifty of the younger children. Many of them never attended a Sabbath-school and never heard of a Bible till they came here, and some of them had never heard of God or Jesus Christ.

My work for the poor women has interested me as much as ever, and we now expect to have one of them for a Bible woman soon. The class has numbered forty-eight during the year. We gave them a picnic in the summer and a substantial treat Christmas, which all seemed to greatly appreciate and enjoy.

Our school closed, as usual, in November; but so many wanted their children to continue we began again the following Monday, and hope to have vacation next summer.

"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Statistics.—Missionaries, 3; teachers, 2; native helpers, 2. Pupils, girls, 78; boys, 55. Total, 133. Pupils who attend Sunday-school, 51; pupils who have come into the Church during the year, 4; women in Bible and sewin classes, 48. Total under instruction, 181.

Miss Kate C. McFarren's Report.

Opening school under discouragements not necessary to mention, the organization was effected, and the school has been growing all the year. Many of the obstacles in our way in the past seem to have been overcome, and we are reaching more and more of the pupils from year to year; and this has been a marked year for us. The change in government which took place early in the year has been greatly in our favor. We hope for greater results as the Liberal party grows stronger. Our prospects are good, and we bless the Lord for what he has done and look to him for new blessings.

I have been absent for the past six months, at home for rest and medical treatment, and have returned with renewed health and strength, ready for the work. May the Lord lead us and guide us and greatly bless our work in this coming year!

Miss Hattie G. Carson's Report.

The school never opened with brighter prospects, and we have been encouraged throughout the year by the increasing number in attendance. By the end of the term we had enrolled one hundred and thirty-three pupils, which is from forty to fifty more than we've ever had before. We have lost very few, except by removals, and at the close of school had almost as many as we have heretofore enrolled during the year.

After the marriage of Miss Fannin I took charge of the drawing-classes until Miss Holderby's arrival.

In July Miss McFarren found it necessary to go home for a rest, so we were compelled to get some one who could teach Spanish in our English departments. We considered ourselves quite fortunate when we secured Señorita Belén Sta. María as a teacher. She had been one of Miss Tydings' pupils in English. Right here I can not help drawing a contrast. Ten years ago, when Mrs. MacDonell was in Durango, it was thought to be quite an event and very brave in Dr. Sta. María, the uncle of Belén, when he stopped to speak to Mrs. MacDonell on the street; and now his niece is teaching in our school. It is little by little, but a decade has brought about a great difference, though many hate us yet.

September 15, when having their parade in honor of independence, as they passed by our house, from four to five hundred strong, all shouted out: "Death to the Protestants." The better class of Mexicans, I am sure, were ashamed of this outcry against three or four defenseless women; but we are glad that our presence is felt. We were standing at the window all the time, as if we were not at all concerned, feeling that "they that be with us are more than they that be with them."

The Bible class under my care has done well. One day one of the young ladies in my room, asking to be excused, took a Bible with her and remained out of the room two hours reading God's Word.

Four of the children in my class, also in my Sunday-school class, have united with the Church this year. This is a great cause for thankfulness and rejoicing.

My work has been principally in the schoolroom, although little outside duties occur. For a part of the year I helped Miss Tydings with her women's sewing-class.

Three nights in the week I take Spanish lessons, and also stay in the room while the girls are having their Spanish.

Our closing exercises were quite a success, and the room was crowded both nights.

Chihuahua.

Miss Lizzie Wilson reports her work in Colegio Palmore as follows:

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." (Isa. xxxv. 1.) "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever." (Isa. xxxii. 17.)

This has been a year of steady growth in our work in Chihuahua. The spring term closed the last of May without anything of special note. Miss Harper and I decided to hold the school through June, combining classes. This, with the help of our largest girls, we were able to do satisfactorily. July and August found us very busy repairing and calcimining; but, with this, we found time to work up a branch school in North Chihuahua. This school has now seventy children in attendance, and is about self-supporting, one of our own girls teaching the Spanish, and Miss Effie Edington the English. The school grew out of a little Sunday-school started there early in the year, at the request of a Mr. John Jones (an engineer on the railroad), from Caneyville, Ky., who came up to the college and begged that we do something toward reforming the people, saying: "There are several Americans there who work in the shops, and they are the most godless set I have ever met." We thought our hands were so full that we could not undertake more, but he was not to be put off, reminding us that busy people can always find time to do more. He left, saying: "I will have a room rented and some benches ready for Sunday afternoon. If I have to go out on my engine, I will leave the key." Every Sunday afternoon thereafter found part of us on our way to Sunday-school, part at home to help in the League service. As Mr. Jones had said, we found the people utterly godless. It seemed useless to try to reach them, but we have already seen blessed results following our labor. They asked us to open a day-school for their children. At first we were afraid of the expense. After a careful canvass of the place, we found many who could pay, and we determined to try, since we had the good will of the people with which to begin. Several of the residents said, "We will help you build, if you will put up a school-house;" so we went to the Governor and asked him for ground to build on. He treated us most kindly, told us to look out what we wanted and let him know, and he would give it to us, and deed it to the college. This we were not slow to do. He gave us two very beautiful lots in a very desirable place. Over $400 has been contributed toward the building, about $700 being needed. I do not want the home friends to think that this school cost their missionaries little or no labor; on the contrary, it is the result of earnest prayer, many a long, weary walk in the sun, many an hour of extra work at home, to make up for the time spent abroad; but God has added his blessing to it all, and now, every day in the week, the sweet songs of Zion may be heard in a place that literally was a desert land.

Miss Effie Edington and one of our own girls are doing faithful work, making the college their home, going and returning every day. Sunday afternoon several of us go to help in the Sunday-school.

Here in the home the work is steadily growing, and our family the largest we have yet had at one time. All told, we are seventy in number, and there seems to be little room for more. We have more pay children than at any time before. Our family is a very happy one; this year nearly all are Christians, loving and helpful, three of our own girls assisting in the teaching. Miss Holding's boy, Savarda Esquivel, has charge of the higher grades. He is an earnest Christian, and his example is a great help in forming the character of these young people. He also helps the pastor in preach-

ing, is President of the League, has a young men's prayer-meeting Tuesday night, and a reading-class Friday night. He is a most willing helper in every place where he is needed.

Our Bible women are doing good, faithful work, going the rounds very quietly, sowing the seed of the kingdom. By and by the angels will gather the sheaves.

Miss Lucy Harper's Report.

One hundred and twenty-one boys have been enrolled in Colegio Palmore this year, of whom twenty-five have had their home in the boys' house. My report will be of these twenty-five, as they have been more particularly under my care.

Three of those present during the spring term did not return in the fall, but the attendance has been unbroken of those who have entered since September 1.

We began the fall term with hearts quieted, purposes renewed, hope rekindled. Before very long three of the boys joined the Church. Two others want to join. A third has asked permission of his parents. A fourth, a very little fellow, has given his heart to the Saviour, and there is not one of all the twenty-two who has not felt and acknowledged his need of a Saviour and a drawing toward him. Five of the boys now in the house are members of the Church. All but nine are from Protestant families. All of them are teachable, lovable, easy to be entreated. In age they range from six to nineteen years, nine to twelve covering the larger number. All the larger boys attend the young men's prayer-meeting and all the Church services. The boys in the house are better, gentler, more studious, and improve faster in every way than the boys in the day-school. We have all of the twenty-two but one in the English grades this year. They are making good progress. Later we will put them back into Spanish. In the past year the boys have developed a fondness for singing, and we have had classes for them. Three of them have had piano-lessons.

Miss L. Wilson has us all learn one text a day, to be given at breakfast and repeated on Sunday. Before sunrise every morning, at the boys' house, there are groups of boys at appointed places studying their verses, sometimes quietly, sometimes with a big noise, but most always with hearty willingness.

Those who love boys will bear me out in saying there isn't any other way in which loving care may be better invested than in *boys*, nor any other work in which neglect, moral or otherwise, tells more surely. If these same twenty-two are made to fill to the full the measure of their duty in the morning's work; if their dusky faces and cracked hands are duly soaped, scrubbed, salved, and starched, their hair well-combed, and they get a quieting good word before chapel-bell, they behave as if they were somebody's darlings. They are thermometers, and show full well the amount of interest invested daily in them.

Six of our boys pay nothing; the rest are part or full paying. Most of them want part or all of their clothing made in school, and some parents gladly pay for the making. Our boys who pay little or nothing do a great deal to help along by cleaning the church, their house and grounds, and

they are just as good and willing as can be. To occupy them in vacations and out-of-school hours they have gardens, where hollyhocks, sunflowers, larkspur, pretty-by-nights, zinnias, etc., flourish and have the unbounded appreciation of the gardeners. When the fruit was beginning to ripen the old war that I hate so much began. I asked Miss Wilson to let me give the boys the trees, and then she could buy the fruit. That worked well. The trees never yielded so much before.

Miss Wilson has mentioned Servando Esquivel, who is the dearly beloved "Professor" to the boys and enters into all their joys and sorrows. They have many a whole and half holiday in the country with him, and always give their number as: "We are twenty-two, and twenty-three with the Professor." Somebody said, "Who is the Professor?" to the little boy, and he answered: "He is a gentleman who loves me very much, and is not so old that he doesn't play with us."

When we got home from the annual meeting last year we found that one sweet little boy, a day-pupil whom we both loved, had died. Some months later his older brother died also. They were of a Methodist family, and had not been without teaching.

In the end I find my heart praising God for his goodness and mercy to me.

CENTRAL MEXICO MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Rebecca Toland, Miss A. V. Wilson,
Miss Viola Blackburn, Miss Mattie Dorsey,
Miss Hardynia Norville.

San Luis Potosi, Guadalajara, and Mexico City are parts of the Central Conference, and very important and promising fields of work. Mexico City Mission was opened by the Woman's Board only one year ago. The following reports by the ladies in charge of the work will be found very satisfactory and interesting.

San Luis Potosi.

Miss Rebecca Toland reports as follows:

As I review the year of 1897 there is not much in our school life and work different from the years that are past. We have gone on in our even way, rejoicing in the goodness and mercy of God and trusting him for guidance through all the difficult places we are called to go.

I can report only a little increase in attendance, except in the spring, when we had as many pupils as we could well care for with our limited number of teachers. After our vacation in the summer a number of our large girls did not return at the beginning of the session, but before the year closed most of them had come back to us. One of our greatest difficulties is holding our large girls after they have learned to speak English.

The Bible work in the school has been more successful this year, and the religious influence over the children has been more marked. In connection with their regular Bible lessons, the children have memorized many chapters from the Bible and some hymns.

Nearly half of the children enrolled this year are Sunday-school pupils; but in a day-school it is almost impossible to get the Catholic children to attend our Sunday-school and Church services. The children, as well as the teachers, have enjoyed from time to time the visits and talks of ministers of the gospel who have come to our city. The kind, helpful words of these servants of God have made deep impressions upon the minds of some of the pupils. I have been surprised to learn from the mothers of some of the very smallest that they had repeated at home what was said to them. In the coming year I hope to arrange with the pastors of the English and Mexican congregations of our Church here in San Luis to hold regular services with the children in our largest schoolroom.

More attention is given to English than to Spanish in the school, as it is what attracts the better class of people. We teach reading, spelling, grammar, and composition in Spanish only in the lower grades. Our native teacher is active in Church work; has assisted some in the woman's work, helped in the Epworth League, and was elected superintendent of the Mexican Sunday-school. All of our American teachers are Christians, and are active workers in the Sunday-school. They visit the absent members of their classes in the Sunday-school and day-school, and make a point of visiting any pupil who is sick.

Sickness has interfered with our school more this year than ever before. Several times contagious diseases have swept over the town, and at such times our daily attendance was not up to the average. There are always scattering cases of small-pox and typhus fever, but as long as they do not touch us we do not dread them. Never during the eight years I have been in San Luis has a missionary or teacher been sick in our home. Each one is always to be found at her place in the work.

Each succeeding year finds us a little stronger, our school larger and better able to stand and hold its own, and we ourselves more consecrated to the Master and more hopeful that our labor shall not be in vain in the Lord.

Statistics.—Number enrolled in girls' pay school, 163; number who attended Sunday-school, 73; number of Church-members, 3; number enrolled in charity school, 90; in woman's work, 57; number who attended Sunday-school, 52; Church-members, 15. Total number under instruction in San Luis, 310; total number in Sunday-school, 125; total number of Church-members, 18.

Miss Viola Blackburn's Report.

The charity school and woman's work have been my pleasant task during the year; pleasant because of the opportunity given to work for the Master.

The school has prospered beyond my expectation. We have a larger number of children enrolled, and a better average attendance than at any previous time. Our school-hours are from eight thirty in the morning to twelve, and from two to four thirty in the afternoon. Four of our large girls did not return to us at the opening of school in September; and we learned that one of them was teaching in another city, one hired as a nurse, one thought she was a lady grown, and did not need to go any more to school, while the other was to be married. Three of these girls are members of the

Church, and we hope the other will become a Christian soon, as she is a member of the sewing-class, and also of the Sunday-school. We have new girls in school to take the places of the ones who left us. Some of them seem much interested in the Bible.

The children are much pleased when we give them *un dia de campo* (a picnic). We took them out to the Rosebud garden a few weeks ago, and spent the day. This garden is a lovely place, so named because it was once the property of the Rosebud Missionary Society, of Virginia. These children spent the day very much as the children in the states would do, laughing, shouting, and playing games; all assured me, when they said "adios," that they had had a beautiful day.

We still meet once a week in the woman's work. There are about as many women present every Friday afternoon as we can manage. The work is carried on in the same manner that it has been for the past two years. We have the same plan that all of the missions have adopted, I believe: that of a sewing-class, and afterward a devotional exercise. Some of the women ask for the Bible lesson first, and after they have studied it take up their sewing. While the women sew, one of the schoolgirls teaches them a Bible text; they learn a new text every Friday. Rev. J. R. Mood, pastor of the Mexican church, preaches to them often. Mrs. Mood also assists us with music in school.

We sometimes meet with the women in cottage prayer-meetings. Our meeting was held one afternoon in the home of a Catholic sister. We could not understand why she kept in waiting so long; but presently the mystery was explained, when her little daughter came in bearing a *casuelo* with burning incense; we did not object, although the odor was very offensive, but went on with the prayer-meeting as though nothing had happened. We have to overcome their customs and prejudices gradually.

We are usually treated courteously in our house-to-house visiting. Very few object to having the Bible read to them in their homes; some *request* us to read the Bible and pray with them. They like to give us presents, and we rarely leave their homes without receiving a flower or some little token of remembrance. We were visiting some women recently who lived at a garden. When we were leaving, one of them offered me a basket of squashes.

When giving tracts we find some eager to receive them, while others can not be induced to take them; some ask for them for the purpose of destroying them, and take pleasure in tearing them to pieces before our eyes. This, however, does not happen often. Two girls were standing one morning near the door of their home, when we happened to be passing by; we stopped, talked to them a few moments, gave them some tracts, and passed on, not observing that they were following us until we entered the house of a friend near by; when we were seated, they threw the tracts into the room and ran away. Ignorance, prejudice, and superstition are gradually passing away, however, before the progress of civilization and Christianity.

Statistical.—Number of children enrolled in charity school during the year, 90; number enrolled in woman's work, 80; number enrolled in both, 23; number enrolled in Sunday-school, 52; total number under instruction, 147; number of visits made, 234; number of tracts given, 1,357.

Guadalajara.

The following is the report of Miss A. V. Wilson:

The year 1897 has been an uneventful one. The school is in good running order, the building repaired, and the woman's work fully organized; there seemed nothing aggressive on hand, simply to do the work already cut out. We organized the boys into a separate school placed under the care of Señor Paz, our pastor; but when in October the bishop found him necessary to the work in Mexico City, I decided that we must give them up. So with much sadness on both sides we told them there was no longer a place for them in the Colegio Ingles. Two days later a young American gentleman, Mr. Bragg, sent me his offer to take charge of them; and as Miss Holding, who was with us at the time, approved of the experiment, I was glad to avail myself of his aid. It has proved a judicious choice, so far as can be determined in two months' trial. He seems greatly interested in the boys and is faithful and popular with them. Another advantage in the arrangement consists in the fact that he holds the school in his own house, several squares off, convenient to their homes, and where they can have a large, sunny patio for play, and liberty to make all the noise necessary to their happiness. The girls' school was in the early part of the year under the care of Miss Dorsey, with the assistance of Miss Achaval, a Protestant Mexican lady educated in Spain. Since our vacation Miss Dorsey has had exclusive charge of it, and the girls have done good work. The infant school, for the second year under the teaching of Miss Solozano, has grown encouragingly. Although not a professing Protestant, Miss Solozano is faithful in attendance on our morning prayers, and teaches the little ones their verses from the Bible and hymns each day. Little but discouragement comes to me in my English department. We spend time, money, care, and distress upon it, and can only just hold it in existence. It is the one thing in my work that makes me feel that I am not the woman to engineer it, and would make me feel like a captive set free if I could lay the chains on some more capable missionary. In our woman's work we do rejoice. With an enrolment in the year of sixty-three, we have on almost every occasion our large schoolroom full of busy, pleased workers, and afterward interested listeners to the Bible lesson given by our pastor, and always with the assistance of our true helper, Brother Figueroa. I am glad to pay some tribute here to the cordial, wise, and ever-ready help afforded by Brother Figueroa. In the Bible work Florencia has spent the best part of five days every week in visiting, conversing, and reading the Bible with prayer, in all parts of the city. For a little while we feared that "the new departure" would play havoc in our church. The warm affection these people have for Mr. Watkins and for Mr. Guerrero Reyes seemed to render it certain; but our Brother Figueroa and his father, Señor Montoya, were firm in their adherence to us, and they were strong enough to confirm those who might have proved weak. In October I received my first appropriation of $125, for the support of girls in the house. I had always had from two to six, and in anticipation of this money increased the number to ten early in the year. Before the first instalment came it was more than spent. It will take the entire year to bring us out

even, which is my excuse for a deficit in my accounts against the Board. My own health seems entirely restored; my teachers and family have had no sickness worth speaking of; our relations to our presiding elder, our two pastors, and with the Church in general, have been of the happiest character, and for all of good we give thanks to Him who alone can use for His services such earthen vessels; and wherein we have come short we leave that too to Him who worketh in all things and may be furthering his cause by our failures.

Statistics.—Number of pupils, girls, 33; boys, 20; infants, 43; English school, 13. Total, 109. In woman's work, 63. Total under instruction, 172. Attendants on Sunday-school, 40; visited in Bible work, 157; members of the Church, 9.

Report of Miss Mattie Dorsey.

In the first of the year I had charge of the boys' school with some help from our native pastor, Mr. Paz. During this time eighteen boys entered and did good work. Then it was thought best for me to take the girls, and in this department I have had thirty-three bright, intelligent girls, most of whom have made rapid advancement in their studies. All, even to the smallest, study the Bible every day, and take great interest in it, committing daily their verses. My work has been to teach five hours a day, help in the woman's work, take charge of house girls, and teach a class in Sunday-school.

City of Mexico.

Miss Hardynia Norville writes of her work in the City of Mexico:

It is with a grateful heart that I pen my annual report. Looking back over the year, it seems to have been one of receiving rather than giving. In a most precious manner has the Lord verified to me the promise contained in my text for the year: "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." (Josh. i. 9.)

The first five months of the year were spent at my old work in the seminary, teaching the senior class and aiding in little ways such as ordering school supplies, keeping the book accounts, making schedules, attending to the chapel-building, etc. Then, too, my Bible classes with four of the higher grades afforded me infinite pleasure. The eagerness with which the pupils pursued the study was gratifying, while my jail work was ever a service of joy.

As the session drew to a close, realizing that I was tired, I asked to spend the vacation at home. I had thought to rest a few weeks, and then go to Chautauqua for a Bible course, but my plans were altered when appointed to work in the City of Mexico. I want to say just here that the privilege of meeting with the members of the Board will ever be held in fond remembrance. The serene, unclouded faces of those dear mothers of Israel, their words of cheer and prayers of faith, seem to beckon me on when the way seems hedged about.

Instead of spending my summer North, I contented myself with a two

weeks' study of the Bible and methods at Mont Eagle, and devoted the rest of my time to friends, missionary societies, and preparation for new work. It was sweet to enjoy once more the warm greetings of the friends of childhood, and to rest beneath the old paternal roof; but returning strength brought with it a renewed desire to be up and off to my sun-browned children beneath the tropic skies, so about the middle of August I set out for my appointed field of labor, not knowing what awaited me, but conscious of the fact that my Father was leading.

Once within the walls of this grand old city, the first undertaking, with the aid of Brother and Sister King, whose interest has known no abatement, was to find a suitable place for our Keener School. But such an undertaking! Two long months were spent in wandering up and down the streets, looking for houses with papers on the doors. There were many vacant houses, and beautiful ones too, but far beyond our money allowed for rent; so I waited and trusted, in the mean time trying to do the best that I could for the little school, until Miss Holding came. For three weeks she joined us in the search. Then came Bishop Duncan and Dr. Lambuth, who pronounced the houses that I had thought must do, unworthy of us, so they, with Miss Holding, telegraphed to be allowed to take a better one. This request was granted, so we immediately procured a nice place, rather far out, but commodious and situated in a thickly settled neighborhood of the middle class. On the 1st of November, Eva, my faithful little helper that Miss Holding brought me from the seminary, and I began to put the place in order. On the following Monday Miss Roldan brought out twelve of her old pupils. Ere the month had passed thirty-three of the old ones found their way to us, and we had an enrolment of seventy-nine. It seemed too bad for the holidays to break into our work just as we were well started; but as the old pupils had had no vacation since January 8, and Miss Roldan needed rest, I deemed it best to give them three weeks at Christmas. We opened again a week in advance of the public schools, when the mothers came flocking to us to take their children. Considering that there are six schools within five blocks of us, one adjoining our place and another just across the street, I could not but believe that the Lord had opened the hearts of the people to receive us. Had I had the teaching force and a larger house, I could have enrolled two hundred pupils; but, realizing that we would be overrun if we continued to take children "gratis," I refused to receive all who could not pay something. As it is, we have one hundred and five, and, when they chance to be punctual, we have to seat the little ones on the floor for lack of room and chairs. Ten children are boarding with us, and twenty-two have joined our Sunday-school. O that the home people would put it within our power to receive the children who are knocking at our door for admission! Are we not losing a golden opportunity, that may never come again? God forbid!

In my helplessness, with the flood of company, household cares, and three grades to teach, I felt that I could not do justice to anything, nor long hold out; so I went to my Father and told him all about it, and asked him to send us help, and he did right away. The very week that I was trusting especially for assistance, a lovely Christian lady, who has served for

years in the mission work in New Mexico, chanced to call, when I told her of our growing school and need of another helper. The next week, returning, she said: "I have been thinking of your work, and have come to offer my services, if you will accept them." A few days later a letter came from a music-teacher offering to come as a volunteer if I needed her. Ah, may I never again doubt that the Lord hears and answers his children!

Though there is a demand for a music department, I could not accept the music-teacher, because we have no piano. The other lady is with us, doing good work, as is Miss Roldan. Order has begun to spring out of chaos, and we really have a school of which the good people, whose money and interest and prayers are enlisted, need not be ashamed.

Praise to His holy name!

STATISTICS OF MEXICO MISSIONS.

Number of missionaries	18
Number of assistants	50
Number of boarding-schools	6
Number of day-schools	9
Number of pupils in boarding-schools	340
Number of pupils in day-schools	2,573
Total number of pupils	2,913
Number of pupils members of the Church	130
Number of pupils in Sunday-schools	800
Number of Bible women	13
Number of kindergartens	2
Value of property owned by the Woman's Board	$125,000

SOUTH AMERICA.

Work of Woman's Board Opened in 1881.

BRAZIL MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

Miss Mattie H. Watts,
Miss M. A. Moore,
Miss Amelia Elerding,*
Miss Eliza Perkinson,
Miss Ida Shaffer,
Miss Lily Stradley,
Miss Layona Glenn,
Miss Nora Smith,
Miss Willie Bowman,
Miss Lulu Ross.

* Home on leave.

Sao Paulo District.

Few changes have occurred in our mission work during the past year. The kindergarten at Petropolis was opened under favorable circumstances, and is under the care of a thoroughly educated teacher, a graduate of the Louisville Kindergarten. The college at Juiz de Fora has had its most successful year, under the guiding hand of Miss Perkinson. A commodious building would greatly facilitate the fine work now in hand. As soon as the way opens for Bible woman work, doubtless its quickening influence will be felt in our Brazil missions, as it is in China and Mexico. There has been house-to-house visiting by some of our missionaries, but as yet no native has done much in this line. Two Bible women have lately been recommended, and are ready to commence work. The rock of Romanism is hard to break, yet the power of the Holy Spirit is able to overcome all barriers.

Miss Mattie Watts, Agent of the Brazil Mission, writes as follows:

In January I went in the capacity of Agent of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions in Brazil, to Juiz de Fora to attend the *festa*, which took place on the 15th. While there I assisted Miss Perkinson with her report and also in reorganizing her school. In June I went again to attend the closing exercises. The two missionaries, Misses Perkinson and Schaffer, were very happy over their success and hopeful for the future. During the intervening time I made several visits to Rio, partly on business for the Petropolis College.

In July I made a visit to Piracicaba, remaining there about ten days. The school seemed to be flourishing. Miss Smith took up the work that Miss Littlejohn had laid down. I was glad to see that the change was made with so little loss. I think the work has gone on during the entire

MAP OF
EASTERN BRAZIL
Longitude
West from
Greenwich
East from
Washington
Scale of Miles.
50 0 50 150 250
ENGRAVED BY AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. N.Y.
GRÃO PARÁ
MATTA GROSSO
MARANHÃO
PIAUHY
CEARÁ
R. GDE. DO NORTE
NATAL
PARAHYBA
PERNAMBUCO
RECIFE
ALAGOAS
SERGIPE
ARACAJU
MACEIÓ
BAHIA
MINAS GERAES
GOYAZ
SAN PAULO
PARANÁ
S. CATHARINA
RIO GRANDE DO SUL
ESPIRITO SANTO
RIO DE JANEIRO
VICTORIA
CAMPOS
CURITYBA
DESTERRO
PORTO ALEGRE
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Tropic of Capricorn
Porto Franco
Amarante
Manga
Valença
Telha
Pombal
Jaicos
Crato
Nazareth
Pedro Affonso
S. Maria
Gurgueia
Bom Jesus
Petrolina
Cabrobo
Paulo Affonso
Joaseiro
Piranhas
Alagoas
Pilar
Porto Imperial
Parnagua
Formoza
Porto Alegre
Larangeiras
Jacobina
S. Amaro
Taguatinga
Palma
S. Izabel
Urubu
Cachoeira
S. Antonio
Carinhanha
Caetete
Leopoldina
S. Rosa
S. Philipe
Januaria
S. Romão
S. Luzia
S. Cruz
Jequitahy
Porto Seguro
Toracatu
Catalao
Minas Novas
Calhão
Caravellas
Diamantina
Philadelphia
Itabira
Bagagem
Uberaba
Indaia
Pitanguy
S. Matheos
Linhares
Paraizo
Formiga
Franca
Itapura
DURO PRETO
Avanhadaoa
CALDAS
CAMPANHA
BROTAS
RIO CLARO
BOTUCATU
SOROCABA
Campinas
Macahe
Jatahy
S. Jeronimo
Fortaleza
Tibagy
C. Thereza
Iguape
Cananea
Chagu
Guarapuava
Campo Largo
Paranagua
S. Francisco
P. da Uniao
R. Negro
Itajahy
Palmeiras
S. José
Lagea
Laguna
Passo Fundo
C. DE S. MARTHA
Torres
S. Leopoldo
Estreito
S. José do Norte
Rio Grande do Sul
Jaguarão

MISS MATTIE H. WATTS.

session as usual. I was pleased to see the beautiful white iron bedsteads in the dormitories. We need to make of our homes veritable object-lessons in neatness, prettiness, and comfort. As our pupils, many of them, pay for their accommodations, they ought to have comforts, if not luxuries, comforts that will teach them to live well and consequently think and act well. I visited the new government schools, and concluded from what I observed that we should keep our buildings in good condition to compete at all with those schools. Heretofore our building has been the best in Piracicaba, but is so no longer. The public schools of the republic are not only developing a system of education based on the Pestalozzian and Froebelian methods, as interpreted by our own American normal schools, but they are having fine buildings and all modern appliances furnished them by their state governments.

In August, when we reopened our school in Petropolis, I arranged my class work for the afternoons, leaving the mornings until our eleven o'clock breakfast free. This time I used, when not prevented by business or visitors, to work on the course of study that I have been planning. I had gotten it ready for the first four years, when the time marked for opening the kindergarten came, and since then my mornings have been given to that work. Until we have a systematic guide in our work, our schools can not do the work well. I hope soon to finish this course of study and put it in the hands of our teachers to grade our classes by. The Bible study course will always be in the hands of the missionary unless we should have a Christian teacher prepared to assist us.

In October I made a trip to Rio and to Juiz de Fora for the purpose of looking into the public schools of the two states, to see what advantages we could secure to our pupils by working in harmony with them. I was impressed at the rapid strides already taken in developing a fine educational system. We want, if we can, to prepare our pupils to enjoy the benefits of these schools and to widen the gospel influence by sending our truly converted girls into the public schools, thus taking some part in evangelizing the masses.

In July Miss Ross returned to the field and was appointed to Rio by Bishop Galloway. In August Miss Elerding went home on a "leave of absence." The reports of the missionaries will show what each has tried to do and the results.

We close this year feeling humbled that we have not done more for God and this unhappy people.

Petropolis.

Miss Watts, as Principal of Petropolis College, reports:

After a vacation of two weeks the work began again on the 7th of January with 26 pupils. The number increased until we had matriculated 53. To reorganize during the session was difficult with so many new elements, especially because of their entering irregularly and because some of the parents wanted every other interest to give way to the study of foreign languages. We have been inconvenienced by this last whim, but we have never sacrificed any principle to it.

When D. Henriqueta Lopes went home in December her mother insisted on her remaining, and later on sent her to the country to recuperate. I could not question the wisdom of this, as she really was not well enough to be confined to the schoolroom. Happily the coming of Donas Emelia Louto and Carolina Lelveira, formerly pupils in Piracicaba, relieved me from the embarrassment in which I should otherwise have found myself. I gave the primary room to Dona Emilia and two or three primary classes to Dona Carolina. Both have given satisfaction during the year. Both are studying music and are anxious to prepare themselves for greater usefulness.

The written examinations in June did not give the results that our efforts merited. Our Portuguese professor was quite ill for a month or two preceding, and was not able to make the questions for the classes, and perhaps their being made by another not accustomed to his methods made it hard for them. The income of the school paid all expenses but the missionaries' salaries, the only assistance received by the school being the "Incidental" fund of $50 each quarter. If all bills had been promptly paid, we might have done without this amount; but as two large accounts were not paid in time, we would have been embarrassed without it. The reopening took place on the 17th of August with eight pupils. We felt the chill of indifference on the part of patrons more than we did the crisp August air of our mountain home. The number slowly increased to 44 on November 16, when we opened the kindergarten in a rented house in another part of the city, and soon had enrolled 50 pupils. One little fellow in the kindergarten refused from day to day to speak or do what was told him to do; so I told his father that I could not have the bad example in the school, and he was dismissed. This second quarter ended January 15 and was interrupted by the Christmas holidays. This is the season all look forward to as a holiday. It passed without any notable event except the coming of Miss Sloss as music-teacher for a five years' term. Miss Kennedy consented to remain another year as music and drawing teacher. This year we have added one more lesson a week to the Bible classes for the whole school. The boarding-pupils have, in addition to the domestic worship, the Sunday-school lessons, memorizing Bible verses on Sunday morning, and attending preaching once on Sunday. As several of our boarders go home on Saturday, I asked Brother Tilly to come up once a week to give our children a sermon. He has done so nearly every week, and has given them many precious gems of thought in short, beautiful sermons. This was done without loss of time from the regular lessons, as on that day we omitted the physical culture lessons. I do pray that they may learn to listen to the preached word, so that it may sink into their hearts as seed in good ground.

Some of the boarders are giving evidence of a change of heart and we can only pray that it may be thorough and lasting. With the assistance of Mademoiselle Hubert, I opened the kindergarten on the 10th of November with three pupils. The number increased to nine, but two who were boarders in the college home had to return in the heat of the day, and the mother thought it too hard on them, so I transferred them back to this college. As I have spent two hours nearly every day in this department, and am convinced that these little ones need just what the kindergarten gives, I want

to have all of our young teachers learn the kindergarten method of teaching. I find that the people up here are almost as slow to appreciate the system as the people of the interior were, but I see the need of it for preparing the pupils for our school "on the hill." I shall do my best until the parents have had an opportunity to see the good results of it. We have had the same teachers as at the beginning of last year, with Mademoiselle Hubert and Miss Sloss in addition The income of the school, with the additional teacher's salary appropriated by the Board, will meet all expenses but the missionaries' salaries. We would so much like to earn the money and save it until we could build a music hall with dormitories above. If our patronage did not fluctuate so much, our school could do so much better work. The teachers have been faithful, and I believe that we shall have better examinations this year. Pray that our pupils may be ready for the great examination day.

Report of Miss Stradley.

Having been here only a year and four months, my time and energy have been used largely in the study of the language and the people. During the past school year I taught in English, having several recitations daily. I now have two arithmetic and three geography classes, in which I use the Portuguese language, and two classes in which I use English. I am pleased with the development of the children, for I can see not only intellectual growth but development of character.

Outside of the school most of our work has been in connection with the ladies' aid societies—one Portuguese, the other English. These are conducted very much as the Leagues at home, having the three departments—viz., Systematized Bible Study, Charity Department, and Financial Department. Our Brazilians are receiving valuable lessons in the art of self-support, and we have at the same time raised a considerable sum for the building of a church in Petropolis. I feel that one of our most urgent duties is to train our converts to carry on the work when we are gone.

I am planning to go home with some of our pupils for a stay of a few weeks on the fazenda, where I may be with the people and speak nothing but Portuguese.

This is carnival-time, and most of our pupils did not come in. It takes a good deal of patience to witness all this foolishness. If Brazilians would only show enough patriotism to put into the public treasury all the money they are spending for masks and extravagances they would be saved the disgrace of bankruptcy, which seems inevitable. Our dollar is worth nearly eight milreis now, but it does us no good when we have to pay higher prices for every thing. It is almost true that we take our money to market in a satchel and bring back our purchases in our hands. My prayers are with the home people, and we feel that we have their prayers.

Report of Miss Umberger.

As we look over the year's work it seems that we have accomplished little to report; but though we have not had a conversion in our school, we are very much rejoiced at the efforts of our little ones to live like Jesus would have them.

It is a rare thing to have to punish; and if one gives cause for punishment, she is truly penitent and says she wants to be good and always do right. We have had some girls hardened and stubborn. If they merited punishment, they would not speak or beg pardon; if they received kindness, they seemed to think that we were trying to entrap them. But now there are no such signs; these same girls enter into Bible study with much interest, and are loveable and good.

For these visible fruits of our labors we are grateful, and pray that each one may not only try to live day by day as Jesus would have her, but accept Jesus in all his fulness and realize that he is her personal Saviour and that she needs no intercession of priests or saints.

During this year I have had the housekeeping and an hour's Portuguese lesson each day, besides school work until two o'clock. I try each day to get in several hours of study, and as much house-to-house visiting as possible. We organized a Woman's Aid Society last January, in order to build up the spiritual, social, and financial interests of the Church, and to that society I give much of my time. During the year over $400 has been raised and the native women led out in Church work, which has proved to be a great blessing to many.

Piracicaba.

The report of Miss M. A. Moore is as follows:

Another busy year has rolled around full of happiness. I returned to Piracicaba from Petropolis in time to get ready for the opening of school February 2. We opened well and were feeling elated over having such a nice class of large girls, when the 1st of March a normal school opened in the town and fifteen of our pupils dropped out, and either enrolled themselves in the normal school or in the public schools, which had just been graded and put together in a beautiful new building. While we were sorry to lose our large girls, we were glad of their opportunity for normal training, and the promise of government positions. The public school teachers are well paid.

We closed our year's work with ninety-three pupils, and the program of our *festa* embraced music and descriptions of the views shown by our magic lantern. The children described the views, and they did it very successfully. Miss Smith wrote and arranged the descriptions, I taking three of her classes and giving my lessons, some of them after school, to give her time and strength for the rehearsals. The audience was much pleased, and I am sure that many heard more of Bible history than ever before when the Bible scenes were described and the scripture passages recited. Nobody objected to anything we had, although ten boys recited the Ten Commandments. You know the Catholics have taken the second commandment out of their books and have divided the tenth into two.

I invited Brother Dickie, our presiding elder, to make an address on the subject of the experiences of life chiseling our characters—blocks of stone—into the image of Christ, and tried to get the view from Lofton's "Character Sketches" for the lantern, but the photographer was unable to prepare it because he had not the proper plates. So Brother Dickie only sang for

us twice the second night and once the first. His singing was much appreciated.

Last session I ordered our little Sunday-school paper for the day-pupils who did not attend Sunday-school, and they appreciate it very much. If for any reason one of these children fails to get the paper, she is much disappointed. We teach the Bible as usual, except that I gave the two classes of smaller children to Miss Smith, who is teaching them from the Old Testament. My classes have studied this year the interwoven life of Christ, and then I began the international lessons with them.

Our financial condition is good. I have paid for paving the sidewalks on both sides of the college, which cost nearly $200. Our gutters are in a bad condition, and the wood that supports the pillars of the porch is beginning to rot, and it is necessary to put in new blocks upon which the pillars rest. The fence also needs repairs.

There are many of our Church people who ask that we take our children into the house and educate them without pay, and we have refused them, for we feared we would not make ends meet. We receive free as day-pupils the children of Church-members who can not pay. Of our twelve boarders, three paid nothing and three very little and six paid the full price. Only two are from Catholic families. Our large girls did a great deal of work. They help us so much with the housekeeping, the school work, and in copying translations. Since our last meeting I have translated Pierson's "Keys to the Word," and one of the girls has copied it for me. Since July I have been preparing again the Sunday-school lessons for our little paper, and two of the girls have copied them for me. I am sure that we are willing to do anything we can for the glory of God and the advancement of his cause.

Report of Miss Leonora Smith.

Miss Littlejohn left us during the holidays, and when the new term opened I assumed her school duties, Miss Moore having relieved me of the housekeeping. I found teaching more satisfactory. At times I have felt greatly discouraged because I could not create in my pupils a love for study and because many made so little progress. My arithmetic classes, with the exception of four girls, have been very unsatisfactory. In algebra they have done better. My pupils in English have made marked improvement this year. My Bible recitations have afforded more pleasure than any other. The little children were always eager to tell what they knew and to hear new stories. No opportunity was lost to show that Christ is the central figure, the fulfilment of the law, to whom the patriarchs and prophets looked for salvation.

Outside of my school duties I have done some visitation work. For a while I went every Monday afternoon. Miss Moore arranged the program, and by taking one of my classes that day I could leave without loss to the school. My visits have been confined chiefly to women outside of the Church. Two of these are now candidates for Church-membership. I visited one poor, afflicted woman who seemed never to have heard of God's wonderful love and salvation in Jesus. She listened with interest. I feel that my labor has not been in vain. The Lord has promised that his

word shall not return unto him void; so if we faithfully scatter it abroad, it will bring forth fruit. What is so important as bringing a soul into the light of Christ? In making these visits one of our Church-members accompanied me until sickness prevented. She is an earnest Christian, and was very helpful to me.

Last December we organized a Woman's Aid Society, of which I was made President. Our purpose is to assist in building a parsonage in Piracicaba. The women have attended well and showed a willingness to do all in their power. Nearly all pray in public, and it thrills the missionaries' hearts to listen to the thanksgivings and earnest appeals offered to God by the native women in behalf of their people. Our donations have been small, but most of the women give of their hard-earned wages which are needed to help support their families.

Report of Miss Lulu Ross.

The year 1897 began for me amid the most agreeable surroundings. The first days were passed on one of the finest ocean steamers, where every comfort and luxury that could be desired were enjoyed to the fullest extent, and congenial companionship made the days pass pleasantly. Later the hallowed associations of the home land deepened the feeling of pleasure to one of intense joy and gratitude. For a while I thought of little else but being safe at home once more with loved ones. Soon, however, calls began to pour in from missionary societies, reminding me of Brazil and my much-loved work.

At our Conference Society I heard the work in different fields discussed and their needs emphasized, and very little said about Brazil. This caused my enthusiasm to kindle, especially when the President of the society began to urge the ladies to take up "Bible Women in China" as a special work. My tongue was loosened, and, instead of finding it impossible to speak out, as I had expected, I found it impossible to keep quiet. From that day I lost no opportunity of pressing the claims of the beautiful country that has become so dear to me. Before returning to my work I had the satisfaction of seeing the people of my own state more interested in Brazil and more ready to respond to her calls.

For three months after my return to Brazil I assisted Miss Glenn in the Rio day-school; but at the end of that time, as most of the pupils moved to Petropolis for the summer, and as I was no longer needed in the schoolroom, and had obtained the consent of the Agent, Miss Watts, I turned my attention to visitation work. Having no companion, I was unable to extend this work as I wished. Four girls I visited are regular attendants at our parish school, their expenses being paid out of the fund given by friends at home. They also attend our Sunday-school and church services, sometimes accompanied by their mothers, who seem to be interested in the gospel.

Rio de Janerio.

The following is from Miss Glenn:

On my return to my work after our last annual meeting in Petropolis we spent some time in looking for a house suitable for our school and home, as

the one in which we then lived had been condemned by the health authorities. Failing to find one large enough to serve for any considerable school, we decided to take a small one for a short while and open school with the few pupils that we knew would follow us to any part of the city; and continue in the mean time to look for a larger house. The only one then available was in another part of the city, and by moving into a new locality we lost most of our pupils, for the people do not send their children out on the streets alone, and it would have required almost the entire time of a servant to take them to and from school. In our new home, however, one by one the school began to grow as, in a quiet way, it made its influence felt, and we began to consider the advisability of remaining there for, at least, the remainder of the year. Just as we arrived at the conclusion to do so, however, we were notified that our landlord had returned to town and wanted his home. As we had taken it for an indefinite time, we could do no more than gracefully yield and look for another house. The Lord seemed to favor us, for the first house that Miss Bowman and I went to see we found to be much more suitable for our purpose than any that we had hitherto seen.

After moving we applied for license for the school, but after some time, on inquiring why our petition had not been granted, we found that the papers had been mislaid, and that we would have to make out another application. This was done, but in a short time the trouble about the attempt on the life of the President came up, and not a few of the public officials were directly or indirectly implicated, and it happened that the one in whose hands our papers then were disappeared, and either carried with him or destroyed all the public papers in his possession, ours among the number. Another application was then made, but the Superintendent of Public Instruction gave me a receipt for it, and advised me to wait until 1898 to take out license, as I would have to pay for the whole year of 1897 and get the benefit of it for only one month, it being then in the month of November.

At the Conference Bishop Galloway sent Miss Ross to Rio to take work in the school. I gave her my classes, as there was not enough class work for both of us, and devoted myself to visiting and trying to build up the schools. Before long, however, I took back some of the classes, and at the end of October relieved her of school work altogether.

On the 1st of April I opened a day-school in our service hall at the Botanical Garden. I found a sweet-spirited little woman to take charge of it, and it has gone on very nicely since. The children have made satisfactory progress in all their studies. They have taken special interest in their Bible work. I went out every other day to open school and give them special Bible lessons. I say special because the teacher, Mrs. Silva, teaches them the Bible every day. She opens school every day with a Scripture lesson, song, and prayer; and every child is required to answer to the roll-call by repeating a verse from the Bible.

On the morning of the last day of school we had very unpretentious though enjoyable exercises. The children sang alone "Jesus is born," "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and several other songs, among them the

"National Hymn." There were several recitations both from secular literature and from the Bible. One little girl recited the parable of the prodigal son, and immediately afterward all the school sang "Prodigal, Come Home." The Ten Commandments were recited by the pupils in concert, as were also the beatitudes.

On the afternoon of the same day the Catette day-school was closed with simple but appropriate exercises. The teacher there, Dona Hermilinda Arauja, is also an earnest Christian worker, and so prominence was given to the Bible work. One little girl recited the twenty-third Psalm. Two others recited in concert the fifth chapter of Matthew, and two little boys recited alternately the one hundred and third Psalm. They also sang the two Christmas songs above mentioned, as well as several other songs.

All the schools closed full of interest, and we look forward hopefully to useful and satisfactory results from these unpretentious factors of our work in Brazil. We hope to some day see among our teachers and preachers some of these bright little faces, grown more mature, but not less happy in the Master's work.

Last year I asked your permission to open these schools, with the understanding that they were to be self-supporting. I find, however, that, to continue them, we must have some financial help, as the people whose children frequent them are poor.

I was surprised and shocked by the intelligence of dear Mrs. Callaway having passed away. It seems in our weak human judgment that we can so ill afford to lose her from our work; but the Master, who sees every part of his field, sees also who has finished her work, and surely our beloved sister goes home laden with sheaves. May our Heavenly Father grant that none of us who still remain to glean shall be called hence until we have done as much for him as she!

Report of Miss Bowman.

After our meeting Miss Glenn and I went directly back to Rio, and our first duty was to find a new home, as the house we were living in was reported unsafe, and Miss Glenn could not again open school in it. It is no easy task in Rio to find a suitable house for our home and school together, but after considerable searching we found one we thought would do, though it was rather small. We lived in this only four months, when the owner returned to Rio and notified us that he wanted the house, so we had to move again. This time we found a more convenient house and a better location nearer the church.

The last of July Bishop Galloway arrived in Rio to hold the Brazil Conference. It was a great pleasure and blessing to us to have this visit from Bishop Galloway. He talked over our work with us, advised and helped us all he could. During Conference we assisted in entertaining the delegates as well as some of our sister workers.

Before Miss Elerding left I looked after the housekeeping and assisted her in the afternoons with the visitation; since then I have done all I could to carry on the work alone, have made one hundred and fifty calls, read the Bible and prayed in eighteen homes, gave out three Bibles, three hymn-

books, one book and twenty religious papers. At Conference Mr. Kennedy was sent us as pastor of our Portuguese work in Rio; and as he had been away from Rio for several years, he did not know where all the members of the Church lived, so I have tried to visit with him one day each week and have found it very helpful to me, as I find my Portuguese very faulty and halting, and as he visits among the same people I do, we arrange our work accordingly.

In connection with our Church work we have both an English and Portuguese Ladies' Aid Society, doing well. I try to interest all the women in visitation and charity. Both societies have helped poor families this year and visited the sick and suffering.

Juiz de Fora.

The following is the report of Miss Perkinson:

The closing days of another December turn my thoughts backward in review of the work done in the mission during the calendar year 1897, and find me no little perplexed as I attempt to decide which occurrences are most important and ought therefore to be reported. As I write my heart fills with praise and thanksgiving to the all-wise Father for his tender mercy in helping me over the hard places and leading me in times of doubt and discouragement. I began the year in fear and trembling. The work I had in hand was entirely new; serious difficulties confronted me, and I felt weak and unable to cope with them. Leaning hard upon the arm of Him who is strength in weakness, He helped me through all that came. We had encouragements from the very beginning, which inspired me with hope, increased my enthusiasm, and led me to redouble my energies. New pupils joined the number already with us; help came from loving friends in the form of earnest prayers, tender sympathy, and wise counsel; the Board sent a helpful sum to assist in caring for two of our charity pupils—all of which combined to strengthen and cheer us, and for which we acknowledge ourselves debtors.

By a special providence we were enabled early in the year to carry out the long-cherished plan of meeting expenses as they were made, and this marked a happy era in the history of the mission. Every department of the school assumed larger proportions, and more than once your missionaries were put to their wits' end in arranging space, beds, etc., in response to the call for admission of some new pupils. An unusually large music class necessitated the purchase of a new piano, which has been paid for, and today the school owes "no man anything but to love" and help others. During vacation we rented more house-room, which was much needed, with new seats in the primary department, two new pianos, a full set of modern appliances, and new bedsteads. We still look forward with joy to the day when the mission will have its own buildings and be properly equipped. Situated as we are now, we have nothing to recommend us but earnest and faithful work. After vacation we enrolled eighty-three pupils. This is indeed a privilege.

As to the advancement and broadening of our work, much might be said. More than once have I been in the act of writing you, asking permission to open a charity department in connection with our other work, to be taught by our eighth-grade pupils. Then I have reconsidered and asked myself if it would be wise to extend the work before that already projected had been properly provided for and equipped. My heart has so often ached when some poor girl has knocked at our doors for admission and we have had to turn her away, either from lack of room or funds. The work in progress is too expensive to sustain many charity pupils, and we have already accepted as many as we can accommodate. My idea has been to open such a department, to be under the supervision of the Principal of the mission, and taught by the girls in the advanced class; the branches taught to include reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, plain sewing, and the Bible. In this way the cost would be very small—that is, if the mission could offer a furnished room.

From Bishop Galloway's visit in July, August, and September, the work and workers in Brazil received a spiritual uplift and were strengthened no little for the coming year's work. *Our* cup of joy was almost full when he assured us that he thought the mission deserved her own home and would so represent the matter to the Board.

Report of Miss Shaffer.

My own work this year has been much the same as last, with the exception of housekeeping and two algebra classes. The housekeeping has meant hard work, but the results have been gratifying financially. On the whole I have been pleased with my class work, especially that done by the advanced English classes. They have written creditable compositions and done a little work in translation. Our English recitation, in which they take much interest, is current history, which is given every two weeks. This class has a twofold object: the study of English, and the keeping in touch with the great busy world.

I have an English class in Sunday-school composed of the children of the missionaries. Another in which I take equal interest, but which is altogether different because of my inability to use the language, in the study of the lesson. My study of Portuguese this year has not been so satisfactory as I had hoped, owing to the pressure of other duties.

During this year the mission school has received many tokens of our Father's love and approval. One thing for which we are deeply grateful is the visit of Bishop Galloway, who by his kindly counsel and words of encouragement gave a new impetus to our work here. The college received from Miss Perkinson a very substantial Christmas present in the gift of a set of Portuguese Encyclopedias.

As the school has no library or anything of the kind, the gift was certainly appreciated. These, with the new desks now on the way, and the piano purchased last year, give us hope to look forward to the day when we may have our own building. My heart is deeply grateful to my Heavenly Father for his manifold blessings to me during the year just closing.

STATISTICS OF MISSIONS IN BRAZIL.

Number of missionaries	11
Number of assistants	15
Number of boarding-schools	3
Number of pupils in boarding-schools	74
Number of day-schools	3
Number of pupils in day-schools	184
Number of kindergartens	1
Total number of pupils	258
School-buildings owned by the Board	2
Value of buildings owned by the Board	$75,000
Rented buildings	2
Total value of property owned by the Board	$75,000

NORTH AMERICA.

WORK AMONG THE INDIANS.

WOMAN'S BOARD COMMENCED OPERATIONS IN 1886.

THE report submitted by those in charge of work among the Indians is full and satisfactory. The school at Anadarko is well supplied with competent teachers, who, in addition to their class work, interest themselves with camp work and whatever tends to promote Christian work. The mission under Miss Brewster's direction at Mt. Scott and Fort Sill is evangelistic, as she goes from place to place with the gospel message of love to body as well as to soul. Many have been converted, many induced to settle into the comfort of home life. Rev. J. J. Methvin reports as follows:

The school, in its various departments, has done well during the year. We have had an average attendance of about eighty. The enrolment has, of course, been a few more than that number. With the exception of sore eyes among the pupils for the first month or two of this session, the health of the school has been excellent. The pupils are making commendable progress in all departments. We feel encouraged for all of them, but a few of them are specially apt. The schoolroom work, under Misses Hall and Swanson, is quite satisfactory. Miss McNairy has just begun work, teaching a few classes in the literary department and the class in music. She enters into the work with earnestness, and I trust will prove a success. Our school hours for each day are 8:45 A.M. to 11:45 A.M., and 2 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.; and three nights each week a night session of one hour, from 7 to 8 P.M. After opening with Scripture-reading and prayer, the first half-hour each morning is spent in teaching the pupils Scripture quotations or memory lessons in Scripture and Christian songs taken chiefly from our standard hymn-book and Young People's Hymnal. The Holy Spirit will bring to their remembrance as need may require the scriptures thus learned here.

In addition to the ordinary branches of an English primary course, such as chart lessons for beginners, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, we give the pupils, as they advance to it, lessons in physiology, history, language lessons, drawing, music, and all of them are taught the Bible daily. I have selected a number of the most promising for music-lessons.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The pupils serve in the industrial department by detail, which is changed each week, so that each pupil by turn gets the benefit of training in each line of work, while all are required to work each day a certain length of time before and after school-hours. A goodly number of our girls have

made commendable progress, and I have now two of them employed to do the baking in the place of the white woman who had that situation. They have been doing the baking now for more than a month, and have succeeded beyond our expectations. It is a very great encouragement to them to find that the toil of study and the drudge of drill is now beginning to be rewarded in worthy employment and honest remuneration. Another year I want to employ in every place they may be qualified to fill these grown girls that we have had under training. If we can succeed in training them successfully for these places, that will speak much for the efficiency of the Woman's Board among them.

In addition to the employment of the two girls here in the bakery, we sent one of our girls to take a place of responsibility in one of the government schools, where she is doing efficient work; and one of our boys we sent out recently to manage a considerable-sized farm and pitch the crop for the year. Others we sent out some time ago for the same purpose. This is real progress, and is encouraging. It means for the rising generation and those to follow more definite Christian homes with improved environments. I should be glad could I establish a blacksmith and wood shop and other industrial enterprises at which the boys might learn trades for the purpose of lifetime employment.

The employees in the industrial department at present are: Miss Belle Bradford, matron; Miss Kate Bartlett, assistant matron and seamstress; Miss Anna Affleck, cook; Miss Belle Stout, laundress; Julia Tsait-kop-ta and Daisy Waterman, two Kiowa girls, doing the baking; and Andres Martinez, industrial teacher and interpreter.

Religious.

We endeavor to keep prevalent a strong religious sentiment among the pupils, and for this reason our effort is to employ only earnest, Christian teachers and employees.

During the last week of school, in June last, forty-four of the pupils professed faith in Christ and united with the Church. Ten had previous to that time and one since united with the Church, making a total of fifty-five. During vacation last summer many of them, under the strong and vicious influences of the camp life, backslided, and came up at the beginning of the present school year in sorry plight; but some of them were faithful, and did good work among their own home folks. One instance among several that have come to my notice I will give. Bali Sompti has a twelve-year-old daughter in school. Recently he and his wife came in to see me about his daughter, Emma. He said: "I have bought a sewing-machine. I want you to have Emma well taught, not only in books but how to sew with the machine, so she will be able to make garments. Last summer when she came home she was a great help to us all. The day I took her home, when we reached my camp, she saw a pack of cards lying there, and she asked me what they were there for. I told her I gambled to get money and ponies and other things. She took the cards, threw them into the fire, and told me that Brother Methvin and the other Christian teachers had taught her that it was wrong to gamble, that it was against Jesus, and she did not

want her father to gamble. And she told us other good things, and she was so earnest about it all that it made me think a great deal. I quit gambling; I quit the 'mescal.' I had been thinking of getting another wife, but I gave that up. I was very cross and cruel to this woman at my side (pointing to his wife), but I have never struck her nor spoken an unkind word to her since. It seems like I am a new man. I don't get mad, but my heart is glad and happy. Emma can be a great help to us. I want you to do your best for her." Any one knowing the character of Bali Sompti in the past would be able to appreciate the wonderfulness of the change in his life.

In addition to the schoolroom work, the teachers make frequent visits to the camps, administering to the sick, counseling the well, teaching the Scriptures, and pointing the Indian women to the cross.

The whole school on each Sabbath morning is taken to the church, one mile away, to the preaching service, and a goodly number of the larger ones are permitted to go there also to the night service. On each Sabbath afternoon we hold Sunday-school at the school chapel; a weekly prayer-meeting on Wednesday night; and the Epworth League meeting on Saturday night. The boys also hold a private prayer-meeting one evening each week, just before the study hour.

Property.

The buildings on the place consist of one large frame 28x48, with T 28x56, two and a half stories, in which are the sleeping-apartments of the teachers, female employees, and the girls, the kitchen, dining-room, sewing-room, etc. The boys' quarters consist of one low-roof dormitory 14x50, a sitting and bath-room and clothes-room 16x28, and a three-room cottage for the industrial teacher and a few boys. The school-building is 36x40, two stories, with chapel above and class-rooms and office below. There is also a barn 36x40, a tool-house 14x36, a laundry 14x30. All are worth (estimated value) $8,000.

The land belonging to the school, and held by government grant, is one hundred and sixty acres, ninety of which are in cultivation. This is very fine land, and well located; but this section is so dry that we can not count, with any certainty, upon much produce from it. For several years in succession we have secured from it scarcely the seed sown; but last year about four hundred bushels of oats, five hundred bushels of corn, and perhaps twenty tons of hay were produced upon the place. One-half went to the renter, one-half to the school.

Government Supplies.

The government issues to us for the children in the school under our care what is known as the "camp rations," which is inadequate both as to quantity and quality and must be supplemented. What is known as the "annuity goods" are also issued to them; but we are required to give each child his "annuity goods," or equivalent, when they leave school at the close of the session.

Miss Brewster's Report.

At the beginning of last year our work at Mt. Scott was considerably disorganized, and our native members discouraged, owing to some circumstances over which I had no control. So, in the very beginning of the year,

I gave them all the time I could possibly spare, visiting them, holding services with them from house to house.

I found the little folks in a deplorable condition as to clothing, so we had sewings and soon remedied the matter.

The attendance at church began to increase. The year before we had service only once a month, but soon changed this, giving them three services a month; and recently a fourth has been added, which the natives conduct themselves.

In July our annual camp-meeting came on, and at that time twenty-three Indians were most happily converted. Genuine work it was, as they came to the altar all broken up with conviction, and there they remained until God graciously pardoned them, when they arose with shining faces to tell what God had done for them. They remained faithful. Any one of them is ready to pray or talk. Not only ready to pray or talk, but they show forth the love of God in Christian giving as well. The membership, fifty odd, has already paid in thirty-five dollars toward the expense of the camp-meeting to be held in July of this year.

Our work here at Fort Sill has been very encouraging, too. There were five converted at our evangelist's meeting, who continue to live consistent Christian lives. Though our membership is smaller here than at Mt. Scott, our congregations are much larger, and we reach a much larger body of Indians.

My Bible woman, Virginia Stumbling Bear, is a sweet, consecrated woman, a graduate from Carlisle, and a fine interpreter of the Kiowa language. She has been working with me about five months. In that time she has proved a great blessing to the work among her people.

Our field hospital is in place, and we hope great good will come to us from it. The Indians seem much interested in it, and ask many questions about "sick house," as they call it. They have no name for hospital; so you can see by this very lack of a name how much they need the knowledge.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Missionaries	50
Teachers and native helpers	132
Boarding-schools	12
Day-schools	59
Pupils (about)	5,000
Women under instruction	1,000
Pupils in Sunday-school	2,000
Bible women	37
Scholarships	77
Bible college	1
Hospitals	2
Medical missionary	1
Number of missionaries employed since organization	79
Married	15
Died	3
Returned because of ill health	10
Value of property owned by Woman's Board	$266,800
Value of Scarritt Bible and Training School	75,000
Total	$341,800

STATISTICAL REPORT OF SECRETARY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Conference.	Auxiliaries.	Members.	Organized During the Year.	Members Added During Year.	Young People's and Juvenile Societies.	Members.	Organized During the Year.	Members Added During the Year.	Total Members.	Honorary Members.	Life-Members.	Honorary Life-Members.	Honorary Life-Patrons.	Scholarships Supported.	Day-Schools Supported.	Bible Women Supported.	Subscribers to W. M. Advocate.	Subscribers to Little Worker.
Alabama	100	1,617	6	66	57	1.244	6	110	2,861	....	18	1	....	2	....	....	503	350
Arkansas	38	590	2	54	22	500	3	60	1,090	....	15	2	....	3	....	3	137	55
Baltimore	76	1,791	3	100	30	939	1	....	2,730	....	157	2	3	5	1	1	407	216
Denver	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
East Texas	22	419	.....	.....	15	255	.....	.....	674	....	32	1	....	1	....	....	150	100
Florida	73	1,185	18	310	48	1,022	26	449	2,207	174	84	....	....	1	1	2	308	154
Holston	84	1,324	10	103	79	1,654	19	184	2,978	....	269	1	....	1	1	....	502	315
Indian Mission	5	133	.....	15	3	75	1	.....	208	....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	.....
Kentucky	97	1,412	2	68	33	697	7	71	2,109	....	195	6	1	2	....	....	402	237
Little Rock	37	759	5	166	38	847	7	324	1,606	....	38	5	....	3	....	2	210	157
Los Angeles	14	228	5	41	1	18	1	....	246	....	6	....	....	....	....	1	61	.....
Louisiana	26	356	1	10	10	100	....	....	456	....	22	....	....	1	....	3	100	.....
Louisville	74	1,030	.....	3	28	39	....	....	1,420	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	216	114
Memphis	78	1,541	6	.....	68	1,562	6	32	3,103	....	137	10	....	3	....	2	503	512
Mississippi	74	1,456	10	158	18	240	8	76	1,696	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	.....
Missouri	80	1,269	4	135	36	836	5	148	2,105	....	129	1	....	1	1	3	344	191
North Alabama	53	966	4	145	39	1,603	3	59	2,569	....	32	4	....	....	2	....	325	258
North Carolina	106	2,158	8	149	61	1,921	5	165	4,079	....	20	....	....	....	....	....	481	206
North Georgia	246	4,516	10	617	153	3,413	11	427	7,929	....	187	9	3	9	2	12	1,222	1,321
North Mississippi	95	1,782	10	185	67	1,619	4	191	3,401	....	42	14	....	11	5	8	499	.....
North Texas	37	860	6	120	7	182	1	32	1,042	....	45	....	....	1	....	....	263	.....
Northwest Texas	40	791	5	52	35	1,090	5	100	1,881	60	24	....	....	6	1	2	323	240
Pacific	23	328	6	.....	4	126	.....	.....	454	....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	124	64
South Carolina	198	3,460	22	100	92	2,456	13	203	5,916	....	92	7	1	17	1	2	853	590
South Georgia	178	3,391	23	250	117	2,451	23	260	5,842	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	962	.....
Southwest Missouri	63	1,341	5	373	45	995	3	401	2,336	....	202	1	....	2	1	3	335	.....
St. Louis	26	666	5	214	17	400	3	....	1,066	....	37	.....	.....	.....	1	....	221	.....
Tennessee	67	1,581	3	306	36	748	2	228	2,329	....	189	7	....	5	....	3	557	109
Texas	37	683	2	86	22	533	1	13	1,216	....	68	1	3	.....	.....	.....	210	184
Virginia	160	3,714	22	265	12	472	2	29	4,186	....	103	.....	.....	17	2	5	791	.....
Western	3	59	.....	3	1	35	.....	.....	94	....	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	.....
Western North Carolina	56	1,130	2	30	32	900	2	19	2,030	....	28	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	258	202
Western Virginia	46	815	9	95	33	820	8	110	1,635	....	79	....	2	.....	.....	1	167	149
West Texas	11	165	3	27	.....	104	....	....	269	..	14	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	95	60
White River	25	467	2	.....	13	286	3	....	753	....	29	1	....	1	....	3	128	67
Total	2,348	43,983	219	3,117	1,282	30,533	170	3691	74,516	234	2,314	74	13	93	19	57	11,952	5,862

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1897-98.

Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Treasurer, in account with Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, M. E. Church, South.

DR.

Alabama Conference	$ 2,550 35
Of above, $67.02, mite-boxes; $61.43, thank-offerings; $64.47, Bible women; $40, scholarships; $75.51, Korea.	
Arkansas Conference	1,177 81
Of above, $89.55, scholarships; $180, Bible women.	
Baltimore Conference	3,273 74
Of above, $24.14, mite-boxes; $94.97, thank-offerings; $203.60, scholarships; $27, Bible women; $84.59, Korea.	
East Texas Conference	461 56
Of above, $59.25, thank-offerings.	
Florida Conference	1,690 34
Of above, $22.39, mite-boxes; $132.86, thank-offerings; $74.25, scholarships; $60, Bible women; $73.28, Korea.	
Holston Conference	3,066 71
Of above, $54.78, thank-offerings; $419.30, Korea.	
Indian Mission Conference	214 90
Of above, $7.10, thank-offerings.	
Kentucky Conference	2,698 37
Of above, $14.78, mite-boxes; $303.44, thank-offerings; $87.25, scholarships; $277.70, Bible women; $250.85, Korea.	
Little Rock Conference	1,113 80
Of above, $26.72, mite-boxes; $28.75, thank-offerings; $80, scholarships; $120, Bible women.	
Los Angeles Conference	261 85
Of above, $44.67, thank-offerings; $38.25, Bible woman.	
Louisiana Conference	1,094 95
Of above, $36.70, thank-offerings; $17.05 mite-boxes; $40, scholarship; $256, Bible women.	
Louisville Conference	2,667 28
Of above, $67.77, thank-offerings; $57.02, mite-boxes; $80, scholarships; $211, Bible women; $89.85, Korea.	
Memphis Conference	3,498 67
Of above, $48.92, mite-boxes; $208.02, thank-offerings; $240, Bible women; $120, scholarships; $120, hospital; $189.51, Korea.	
Mississippi Conference	1,149 11
Of above, $27.64, thank-offerings; $5.64, mite-boxes; $54.50, scholarships; $2.10, Korea.	
Missouri Conference	2,267 47
Of above, $579.76, thank-offerings; $8.60, mite-boxes; $40, scholarship; $14.72, Korea; $50, Hendrix School.	
North Alabama Conference	1,791 94
Of above, $19.74, thank-offerings; $29.87, mite-boxes; $80, scholarships; $49.30, Korea.	
North Carolina Conference	3,391 93
Of above, $20.05, thank-offerings; $300.65, hospital; $296.17, Korea.	
North Georgia Conference	10,460 46
Of above, $184 57, thank-offerings; $9.55, mite-boxes; $320, scholarships; $844.40, Bible women; $439.85, Korea.	
North Mississippi Conference	4,600 90
Of above, $130.78, thank-offerings; $320, scholarships; $530, Bible women; $32, hospital; $520, day-schools.	
North Texas Conference	997 49
Of above, $165 74, thank-offerings; $1.70, mite-boxes; $40, scholarship; $18.45, Korea.	
Northwest Texas Conference	1,606 95
Of above, $26.40, thank-offerings; $7.55, mite-boxes; $130, Bible women; $200, day-schools; $89 67, Korea	
Pacific Conference	696 92
Of above, $12.46, thank-offerings.	
South Carolina Conference	6,564 04
Of above, $.00, day-schools; $95.66, mite-boxes; $664.43, scholarships; $120, Bible women; $663.56, Korea.	
South Georgia Conference	6,537 44
Of above, $48, hospital; $180, Bible women; $650.28, Korea.	

Southwest Missouri Conference	$ 4,033 83
Of above, $40, scholarship; $120, Bible women; $85.50, day-school; $24.14, Korea.	
St. Louis Conference	1,440 95
Of above, $18.20, hospital; $33.45, thank-offering; $7.29, mite-boxes; $72, day-school; $179.90, scholarships; $24.07, Korea.	
Tennessee Conference	3,785 88
Of above, $140.58, thank-offerings; $63.80, mite-boxes; $300, scholarships; $119, Bible women; $10.49, Korea.	
Texas Conference	1,405 42
Of above, $50.34, thank-offerings; $17.02, mite-boxes.	
Virginia Conference	6,258 82
Of above, $181.22, thank-offerings; $250.22, mite-boxes; $701.07, scholarships; $311.50, Bible women; $123.26, day-schools; $24, hospital.	
West Texas Conference	286 85
Of above, $57.45, thank-offerings; $6.20, Korea.	
Western Conference	69 29
Western North Carolina Conference	2,657 79
Of above, $172.64, scholarships; $500.94, Korea.	
Western Virginia Conference	851 77
Of above, $37.60, Bible woman.	
White River Conference	850 30
Of above, $15 95, thank-offerings; $3.98, mite-boxes; $30.60, scholarship; $106, Bible women; $87.03, day-schools.	

MISCELLANEOUS.

Received of Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, from M. W. Watkins, New York	40 00
Received of Mrs. J. M. Henson, Eureka, Ky	5 00
Received of Mrs. C. T. Jewell, Lyerly, Ga	2 30
Received of C. W. ——	1 00
Received of Mrs. J. I. Mulkey, Texas	5 00
Received of Miss Lena Freeman, proceeds of *Little Worker*	324 24
Received of Mrs. J. M. Barker, Mexico, Mo	3 00
Received of Miss Bettie Anthony, Pine Log, Ga	2 25
Received of Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, from Miss Littlejohn	4 82
Received of Bettie Brand, McCondy, Miss	4 10
Received of Miss Nellie Taylor, Windsor, Mo	3 75
Received of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Turpin, Calera, Ala	100 00
Received of bequest of Mrs. Merriwether, Hernando, Miss	265 00
Received of Mrs. C. M. Hardy, Montague County, Tex	20
Received of Mrs. D. M. Duncan, Eutaw, Ala	40 00
Received of Miss A. M. Barnes, for Korea	12 76
Received of Memorial Fund	129 46
	$ 86,418 76

CR.

1897.		
April 29.	Paid Miss Minnie Umberger	$ 50 00
	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	98 05
30.	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
May 6.	Paid American Paper Co., mite-boxes	57 50
10.	Paid Miss Lizzie Wilson, special	42 00
	Paid Miss M. Richardson, order missionary	87 50
11.	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets, etc	169 09
27.	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary	300 00
	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, *Woman's Missionary Advocate* account	567 63
28.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	87 08
	Paid Miss Kate McFarren, special for Durango	56 75
	Paid Miss Helen Richardson, specials for China	277 00
June 9.	Paid expenses of Annual Meeting	234 99
	Paid Miss Susie Williams, missionary	271 50
18.	Paid Miss Lula Ross, traveling expenses to Brazil	293 50
19.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, fourth quarter for Mexico	8,168 75
	Paid Mrs. J. B. Martin, order Miss Martin	25 00
	Paid Miss Mary Smith, for missionary	80 00
	Paid Miss M. L. Gibson, account of Miss Bomar	15 00
	Paid Drs. Lambuth and Morrison, for lot at Korea	1,000 00
	Paid T. B. Holt, account of J. W. Wolling	14 80
	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets, etc	198 66
	Paid M. H. Watts, fourth quarter for Brazil	2,823 75
	Paid Miss Helen Richardson, fourth quarter for China	4,615 00
24.	Paid J. J. Methvin, fourth quarter for Indian Mission	1,237 50
30.	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary	250 00
	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
July 2.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	102 40
	Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets	87 50
6.	Paid Miss Helen Richardson, specials for China	2,078 20
16.	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, traveling expenses to Korea	250 00

July	16.	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, salary	$ 187 50
		Paid Miss N. E. Holding, for insurance and Bible woman	426 00
	23.	Paid Miss L. V. Wright, outfit and traveling expenses	285 00
Aug.	2.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	86 55
	3.	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, clerical help	50 00
		Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker*	25 00
	7.	Paid Miss Alice Waters, traveling expenses to China	300 00
		Paid Miss H. Norville, traveling expenses and school supplies	150 00
	24.	Paid Miss L. Rankin, traveling expenses and salary	623 80
Sept.	2.	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary	300 00
		Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, clerical help	50 00
		Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, printing	820 77
	4.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	91 60
	22.	Paid M. H. Watts, Agent, first quarter for Brazil	3,318 25
Oct.	2.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, first quarter for Mexico	9,162 50
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	81 31
		Paid Miss Susie Williams, traveling expenses to China	230 00
		Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, clerical help	50 00
		Paid Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Treasurer, postage	8 00
	5.	Paid J. J. Methvin, first quarter for Indian Mission	1,375 00
		Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets	62 50
		Paid Miss Laura Haygood, specials for China	92 00
		Paid Mrs. J. B. Martin, for missionary	75 00
		Paid Mr. J. W. Shaffer, for missionary	25 00
	13.	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets	182 44
		Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker*	25 00
	16.	Paid Miss Laura Haygood, specials for China	908 00
		Paid J. C. Umberger, for missionary	50 00
	30.	Paid Miss Helen Richardson, traveling expenses to China	213 50
Nov.	3.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	92 63
	18.	Paid Miss H. Norville, Mexico City	350 00
		Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
	23.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, specials for China	203 75
		Paid American Paper Co	60 24
		Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary	300 00
Dec.	2.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, specials	450 00
	10.	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, Korea	687 50
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, second quarter for Brazil	3,536 25
	12.	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	88 16
	15.	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets	186 47
	18.	Paid Miss Helen Richardson, half salary	93 75
		Paid Miss A. Elerding, traveling expenses and salary	166 35
		Paid Miss L. Haygood, Bible woman	60 00
		Paid B. C. Watts, for missionary	20 00
	28.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, second quarter for Mexico	8,716 25
		Paid Miss H. Norville, Mexico City	100 00
	31.	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
		Paid J. J. Methvin, second quarter for Indian Mission	1,375 00
		Paid Miss Ida Pyles, for missionary	50 00
		Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets	62 50
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	82 31
1898.			
Jan.	8.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, specials for China	409 00
		Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, Bible woman	60 00
		Paid Mrs. Gill, Dayton, Ohio, missionary	87 50
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	79 77
		Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker*	25 00
Feb.	3.	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
		Paid Miss Esther Case, special for Saltillo	60 00
	10.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, Mexico	78 12
		Paid Busk & Jevons, agents for steamer berth	25 00
		Paid J. M. Elliott, account Mrs. Campbell	75 00
	15.	Paid H. P. McCormick, account Miss Watts	257 50
	21.	Paid Miss M. Holder, traveling expenses to Brazil	175 00
	26.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, special for Laredo	5 50
		Paid Miss Esther Case, special for Saltillo	52 28
		Paid Miss L. Wilson, special for Chihuahua	25 00
		Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, special for Guadalajara	12 64
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, specials for Brazil	27 28
		Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk	50 00
March	3.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*	85 21
	4.	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, for Korea	612 50
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, third quarter for Brazil	2,811 50
		Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets, etc	205 50
		Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary	300 00
		Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, third quarter for China	4,265 00
	15.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, for China	800 00
	29.	Paid J. J. Methvin, third quarter for Indian Mission	1,375 00
		Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets	87 50

March 29.	Paid John S. Moore, for missionary	$	187 50
	Paid Miss Ada Shannon, for missionary		50 00
	Paid Mrs. C. W. Umberger, for missionary		50 00
	Paid Amelia Elerding, home salary		93 75
	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, third quarter for Mexico and specials		9,712 50
April 1.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of *Little Worker*		91 93
	Paid Mrs. M. E. Steele, Treasurer Northwest Texas Conference		10 00
	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary		250 00
	Paid Miss Carrie Kennedy, clerk		50 00
	Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker*		25 00
6.	Paid J. J. W. Glenn, for missionary		50 00
	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, specials for China		2,062 37
	Paid American Paper Co., mite-boxes		52 50
		$	84,557 38

RECAPITULATION.

Balance April 15, 1897	$29,844 16		
Amount received for fiscal year 1897-98	86,418 76	$	116,262 92
Amount paid out for fiscal year 1897-98			84,557 38
		$	31,705 54
In banks as follows, April 7, 1898:			
First National Bank	$ 8,173 30		
American National Bank	18,476 87		
Fourth National Bank	5,055 38	$	31,705 55
Thank-offerings received this year		$	2,694 02
Mite-box collections for year			714 72
McGavock Memorial			5,585 21
Juvenile collections for Korea			4,427 05

Bequest Received This Year.

Mrs. Merriwether, Hernando, Miss	$	265 00

Receipts Since Organization.

Amount received for fiscal year 1878-79	$ 4,104 27	1888-89	$ 68,165 34
1879-80	13,775 97	1889-90	75,476 54
1880-81	19,362 10	1890-91	85,969 44
1881-82	25,609 44	1891-92	66,448 59
1882-83	29,647 31	1892-93	71,199 12
1883-84	38,873 52	1893-94	66,377 90
1884-85	52,652 12	1894-95	63,951 98
1885-86	51,588 76	1895-96	74,403 16
1886-87	50,092 63	1896-97	82,880 47
1887-88	69,729 65	1897-98	86,418 76
			$1,096,727 07

Amount received for Training-School from 1889 to 1898

Grand total $

Respectfully submitted.

Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, *Treasurer.*

Examined and reported upon May 17, 1898.

T. P. Weakley, *Auditor;*
G. W. Cain, *Treasurer,*
Board of Missions, M. E. Church, South.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS FROM CONFERENCE SOCIETIES

From April 15, 1897, to April 7, 1898.

Alabama Conference	$ 2,550 35	North Texas Conference	$ 997 49
Arkansas Conference	1,177 81	Northwest Texas Conference	1,606 95
Baltimore Conference	3,273 74	Pacific Conference	696 92
East Texas Conference	461 56	South Carolina Conference	6,564 04
Florida Conference	1,690 34	South Georgia Conference	6,537 44
Holston Conference	3,066 71	Southwest Missouri Conference	4,033 83
Indian Mission Conference	214 90	St. Louis Conference	1,440 95
Kentucky Conference	2,698 37	Tennessee Conference	3,785 88
Little Rock Conference	1,113 80	Texas Conference	1,405 42
Los Angeles Conference	261 85	Virginia Conference	6,258 82
Louisiana Conference	1,094 95	West Texas Conference	286 85
Louisville Conference	2,667 28	Western Conference	69 29
Memphis Conference	3,498 67	Western North Carolina Conference	2,657 79
Mississippi Conference	1,149 11	Western Virginia Conference	851 77
Missouri Conference	2,267 47	White River Conference	850 30
North Alabama Conference	1,791 94	Miscellaneous	813 42
North Carolina Conference	3,391 93	Memorial Fund	129 46
North Georgia Conference	10,460 46		
North Mississippi Conference	4,600 90	Total	$86,418 76

TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING
WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,
M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.
1898.

"Behold how these Christians love one another!" is as truly exemplified in the closing days of the nineteenth century as when the saying was first elicited from heathen lips by the devotion and fellowship of the apostolic days. Nowhere is this bond of love more apparent than in the warmth of hospitality, the tenderness of greeting, and the unity of aim and heart that characterize the annual gatherings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. Never have all things conspired more perfectly for the pleasure and advancement of our Annual Conference than at Greensboro, N. C. The sun moderated the fervency of his beams; the very air brought exhilaration to the body and brightness to the mind; while brethren, woman's missionary workers, visitors, and even children vied with one other in showing appreciation and kind attentions to these servants of the most high God. The sadness which each member felt in coming to the home of dear Aunt Bumpass, so soon after her translation to paradise, was dissipated, as the beautiful resignation and unselfish joy in her *release*, exhibited by her loved ones and friends, became apparent, and instead a deeper spirituality, a nearness to the unseen and eternal, took possession of the hearts of her devoted fellow workers. She being dead, yet spoke, and as of old brought with her sweet peace.

The preparation service on Thursday evening was led, as usual, by Mrs. Wightman. The lesson of the evening was Mrs. J. R. Mott's rendering of the twenty-third Psalm, which so impressively and beautifully brings to view the wonderful blessings therein contained. The Lord's servant shall not want *rest*, nor *food*, nor *guidance*, nor *forgiveness*, nor *companionship*, nor *protection*, nor *joy*, nor *abundance*, in this life nor in the life to come. The testimony service was peculiarly impressive and full of the presence of the Holy Spirit. One prevailing thought like a golden thread unconsciously

ran through every experience: *Ours is a covenant-keeping God. He is true to his promises in all the varied conditions and details of life.* It was an uplifting, strengthening hour, and at its close all present felt that one petition of Mrs. Wilson's opening prayer had certainly been answered: "O God, grant that each one in divine presence may mount a step higher to-night."

The anniversary meeting on Friday night was opened by a devotional service, led by Dr. Crawford, editor of the *North Carolina Christian Advocate.* The welcome of the societies of the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences and of the auxiliaries of Greensboro was voiced by Mrs. L. H. Robertson, President of the Western North Carolina Conference Society. Her address abounded in Christian tenderness and hospitality. Dr. J. H. Weaver, pastor of West Market Street Methodist Church, spoke in behalf of the Methodists of North Carolina, and more especially for the city of Greensboro. Others might be able to give more pompous entertainment, but none could welcome the Board with warmer hearts, or invite them into a more beautiful church. The response to these addresses was delivered by Mrs. J. B. Melone, Secretary of the Missouri Conference Society. In eloquent, touching words she returned thanks for Greensboro's royal reception, and contrasted it with the manner in which Jesus, the great Missionary, was welcomed by the world he came to save. The Board counted itself most fortunate in having Bishop Galloway present on Friday, and gladly deferred its remaining anniversary exercises and gave the hour to the Bishop, as Mrs. Wightman informed him, "for his longest and best speech." The Bishop's subject was, "Some Observations of a Christian Optimist in the World's Mission Fields," and it has never been the pleasure of the Board to listen to an address more replete with fervid enthusiasm, assured hope, and bright visions for the future of heathen lands.

Saturday evening's service was occupied by Dr. Y. J. Allen, our veteran missionary of forty years in China. Dr. Allen's address brought to view most clearly the changes which these forty years have wrought in the Chinese empire; changes in attitude toward foreigners, opposition all gone; changes in their relation toward truth, real Christians now; changes in education, in schools, in the press, in the views of the ruling powers. No record of any period in history was ever more filled with encouragement than the present status of Chinese affairs.

Sunday, as usual, was a full day. Dr. W. B. Palmore, editor of

the *St. Louis Christian Advocate*, preached the annual sermon from the text: "Bid her therefore that she help me." (Luke x. 40.) His discourse was interesting and helpful throughout, filled with illustrations and allusions, which a varied experience in foreign lands made doubly impressive. Rev. H. C. Tucker, of Brazil, preached the morning sermon at Centenary Church.

At 4 P.M. the children's service was conducted by Mrs. Hargrove, assisted by Miss Barnes and Miss Helen Richardson. At the same hour Miss Gibson and Miss Mary Richardson addressed the Sabbath-school at Centenary Church, while Mrs. Matthews and Miss Elerding spoke at the Southside Mission.

At 8:30 P.M. Dr. Y. J. Allen delivered his magnificent China jubilee address to a large and appreciative audience at West Market Street Church. Dr. W. B. Palmore preached at Centenary Church the same evening.

Monday evening was devoted to a memorial service in honor of our sainted fellow laborers, Mrs. Morgan Callaway, Secretary of the North Georgia Conference Society, and Mrs. Frances Bumpass, Secretary of the Western North Carolina Conference Society. It was truly a *holy hour*. The calm, lovely face of "Aunt Bumpass," framed in white lilies and roses, brought the unseen world very near, and we seemed to bask in its glory. Mrs. Higginbotham, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Humbert, and others, spoke of Mrs. Callaway's bright, devoted life; Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Swindell, Dr. and Mrs. Cunninggim, and others, of the holiness and beauty exhibited in the life of "Aunt Bumpass"—"consecrated energy," a synonym for the one; "divine peace," for the other. "Their works do follow them."

On Tuesday evening our outgoing missionary, Miss Mary T. Pescud, for six years Treasurer of the North Carolina Conference Society, was accepted by the Board and appointed to work in Juiz de Fora, Brazil. Her joy in this fruition of cherished hopes was fully attested by her beaming face and words of truest love and deepest consecration. Addresses were made by Miss Mary Richardson, of Missouri, who sails for China in July; Miss Elerding, of Brazil, and Miss Helen Richardson, of China, missionaries of the Board at home on leave of absence, but both preparing to return to their loved employ in July. Miss Elerding spoke specially of the Estalagem work of Brazil, in which she has been engaged for five years. Miss Richardson devoted the larger part of her address to McTyeire School, Shanghai, China. Both of these speakers were most happy in the presentation of their respective fields of labor,

and brought vividly before their audience the great good being accomplished in these diverse lines of missionary service.

The delightful drive over the city of Greensboro, so kindly tendered by Mr. Odell, whose daily presence and unflagging interest in the Board were greatly appreciated; the visit to the Greensboro Female College, and to the grave of dear "Aunt Bumpass"—will long remain as bright pictures on memory's wall. The scene at the grave of "Aunt Bumpass," covered by flowers borne by her fellow workers of the Board, was beautiful and touching beyond description. Circling the sacred mound, the strains of "How Firm a Foundation" and "In the Sweet By and By" were wafted heavenward by voices often choked with tears. Mrs. Park and Mrs. Hendrix, our remaining mothers in Israel, led in prayer, followed by Mrs. Wightman. Before leaving the holy spot, with clasped hands all sang "Blest Be the Tie that Binds," and in that hour hearts were knit more firmly to God, to heaven, and to one another. "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

The record of this Twentieth Annual Session showed *growth* on the part of the members of the Board in several important particulars: in a deep recognition of responsibility, in a more earnest effort to meet unflinchingly, yet sweetly and patiently, the difficulties which present themselves, and in a fuller realization of the need of the wisdom of James iii. 17 in considering and legislating upon the things which pertain to the kingdom of God. May the blessings of Almighty God rest upon the labors of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions during the coming year!

MARY T. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

OFFICIAL MINUTES.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met in the West Market Street Methodist Church, Greensboro, N. C., June 3, at 9 A.M., for the first business session of its Twentieth Annual Conference. Mrs. Wightman, President of the Board, led the devotional exercises, and, after Hymn 303 was sung, offered fervent prayer that the blessings of God might rest upon his servants assembled before him to devise ways and means for a further obedience to his last great command. Hymn 356 was sung. Mrs. Wightman then read a number of Scripture passages collated and joined to show forth the unity of God and his children; the greatness and power of our God; of Christ Jesus, the manifestation of himself to man; and the wonderful promises of the impartation of all power in God to the sons of men who commit themselves wholly unto him. "All are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's."

The pages for the day were next introduced: Misses Dot Thacher and Margaret Merriman, and Master Worth Ross.

The Recording Secretary called the roll of officers, Managers, and Conference Secretaries, and the following answered to their names:

Officers.

Mrs. M. D. Wightman, Mrs. S. C. Trueheart,
Miss M. L. Gibson, Mrs. H. N. McTyeire,
Mrs. T. B. Hargrove.

Managers.

Mrs. W. G. E. Cunnyngham, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell,
Mrs. I. G. John, Mrs. Adam Hendrix,
Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.

Conference Secretaries.

Mrs. J. W. Rush,
Mrs. V. V. Harlan,
Mrs. W. H. Beehler,
Mrs. S. S. Harris,
Mrs. J. E. Bentley,
Mrs. George Buffington,
Mrs. L. A. Hotchkiss (reserve),
Mrs. W. H. La Prade (reserve),
Mrs. C. W. Brandon,
Mrs. F. D. Swindell,
Mrs. E. A. Gray,
Mrs. W. M. McIntosh,
Mrs. L. H. Potts,
Mrs. J. W. Humbert,
Mrs. G. W. Matthews (reserve),
Mrs. S. N. Jones,

Mrs. W. L. Duckworth (reserve),
Miss Sallie Smylie,
Mrs. J. B. Melone,
Mrs. H. C. Cheatham,
Miss Lida Moore,
Mrs. J. E. Musick,
Mrs. P. A. Sowell,
Mrs. S. S. Park,
Mrs. L. H. Robertson (reserve),
Mrs. H. B. Strange (reserve).

All the officers were present, and Mrs. J. D. Hamilton was the only absent Manager. Twenty Conference Societies were represented by their Secretaries, and six by reserve delegates duly accredited. Eight Conference Societies had no representation—viz., East Texas, Indian Mission, Los Angeles, Louisville, Northwest Texas, Pacific, West Texas, and Western Conferences. The editors of our papers, Mrs. F. A. Butler, and Miss A. M. Barnes, were present; also Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.

The minutes of the preliminary meeting of officers and Managers were read and adopted, and the following committees appointed:

On Extension of Work.—Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Chairman; Mrs. S. S. Park, Mrs. George Buffington, Mrs. W. H. Beehler, Mrs. L. H. Potts, Mrs. H. C. Cheatham, Miss Sallie Smylie, Mrs. J. W. Humbert, Mrs. W. G. E. Cunnyngham, Mrs. J. B. Melone, Mrs. J. W. Rush.

Our Finance.—Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Chairman; Mrs. C. W. Brandon, Mrs. J. E. Musick, Mrs. W. M. McIntosh, Mrs. V. V. Harlan, Mrs. L. A. Hotchkiss, Mrs. E. A. Gray, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell.

On Publication.—Miss M. L. Gibson, Chairman; Mrs. S. S. Harris, Mrs. P. A. Sowell, Mrs. G. W. Matthews, Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham, Mrs. S. N. Jones, Miss Lida Moore, Mrs. W. L. Duckworth.

On Missionary Candidates.—Mrs. F. D. Swindell, Chairman; Mrs. Adam Hendrix, Mrs. W. H. La Prade, Mrs. I. G. John, Mrs. J. E. Bentley, Mrs. H. B. Strange.

On Memorials.—Mrs. S. N. Jones, Chairman; Miss Lida Moore, Mrs. S. S. Harris, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell, Mrs. H. C. Cheatham.

On Resolutions.—Mr. G. W. Matthews, Chairman; Mrs. W. H. Beehler, Mrs. I. G. John.

On Platform Courtesies.—Mrs. L. H. Robertson, Chairman; Mrs. J. A. Cunninggim, Mrs. J. H. Weaver.

The following ladies were appointed to lead the devotional exercises during the sessions of the Board:

Friday morning—Opening exercises, Mrs. M. D. Wightman; closing exercises, Miss M. L. Gibson.

Friday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. H. C. Cheatham.

Saturday morning—Opening exercises, Mrs. I. G. John; closing exercises, Mrs. W. M. McIntosh.

Saturday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. C. W. Brandon.

Monday morning—Opening exercises, Mrs. J. B. Melone; closing exercises, Mrs. G. W. Matthews.

Monday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. P. A Sowell.

Tuesday morning—Opening exercises, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell; closing exercises, Mrs. A. W. Wilson.

Tuesday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. E. A. Gray.

The following hours for meeting and adjournment were selected —viz., 9 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., the last half-hour of each morning session to be spent in devotional exercises; committee meetings to begin at 2:30 P.M., and adjourn at will.

Bishop Galloway was at this juncture warmly welcomed by the body, and spoke at some length on the claims of Brazil as a mission field, the progress of our work, and faithful labors of the missionaries of our Board engaged there. He regards South America as a much-neglected continent, even missionary boards failing to fully realize its needs, which are quite as great as those of countries where grossest idolatry prevails. Illiteracy, impurity, and infidelity are most prevalent. The seed-sowing of faithful missionary workers is bringing forth fruit in that land; the good resulting from the work of the ladies sent out by our Board is very evident in their respective fields. Piracicaba, Juiz de Fora, Petropolis, and Rio de Janeiro are centers of influence from which radiate the light of the gospel of Christ. He urged the need of a school building in Juiz de Fora, and of day-schools in Rio de Janeiro. The Bishop paid a tender tribute to the memory of Miss Anna Clara Chrisman, his sister Mississippian, whom God so early called to reward, and begged that her last words on leaving home and loved ones might not be forgotten, but might inspire many of her sisters to like devotion and joyful service: "This is my wedding-day; I am married to the work of my Lord."

The bar was fixed, and Mrs. Cunninggim, President of the North Carolina Conference Society, was introduced to the body; also Rev. H. C. Tucker and Miss Elerding, of Brazil, and Miss Helen Richardson, of China. Mr. Tucker gave an earnest and enthusiastic report of the work being done by our missionaries in Brazil; the changes that were being effected through their access to the women and girls; the desire for the gospel now being manifested in the

vicinity of our school in Piracicaba; the leavening influence of the Word of God distributed; and the efficiency of the work done, especially by those workers who had been *trained* before going to the field. His glowing words made a deep impression upon the hearers, and the interest in Brazil was greatly quickened by these faithful representations of her needs, her possibilities, and her evident awakening to the light of life.

The Secretary of Home Affairs read her annual report:

REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE BOARD AT HOME.

MRS. S. C. TRUEHEART, SECRETARY.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, after twenty years of work, looks back to its beginnings—its cautious policy, its wise planning, its substantial progress, which has resulted in its present prosperous condition—with thanksgiving. The obstacles that confronted the Board in early years have not all been overcome, but the happy effects of meeting and overcoming difficulties increased courage and strengthened hope. As the enthusiasm of the first years declined, and the expectation of speedy triumph gave place to fear of defeat, self-confidence decreased and reliance upon God increased, but discouragements do not paralyze action, and higher motives of action and a closer fellowship with our Lord now mark our progress. We can rejoice that difficulties have been met and conquered, as thereby a deeper, broader foundation was laid, and a more enduring structure is being raised. Very true it is that obstacles, difficulties, toil, and dangers are necessary means to the ends we have in view, are the stepping-stones to success, and we rejoice over the past; as Longfellow beautifully puts it, "That which seemed a pathway of thorns in the passage has become a pavement of gold in the retrospect."

While twenty years of foreign missionary work have given a more commanding faith, broader views, and higher hopes as to the prosecution of the work at home, at the same time the tremendous forces of heathendom are more fully realized. Only about one-fourth of the heathen world has been touched by the gospel. Over three-fourths there still spreads a dreary waste of helplessness, ignorance, and despair. What has been done is but a drop compared with the mighty ocean that must be done before all the kingdoms of the world become the kingdom of Christ the Lord. It is quite necessary to know what our resources are, from time to time, and the possibility of increasing them, as foreign fields open to us. At this time the Board has a paying membership of only seventy-four thousand five hundred and sixteen, a large number of these being children, whose membership fees are only five cents per month. Many women remain in the Church idle and indifferent still on the subject of missions. These should be the subject of our prayers, that God would open their eyes and touch their hearts, and induce them to cast in their lot with us. Many who gladly and successfully labored with us have entered into rest, and their places should be filled. Two of the members of the Board have been called from us during the year just closing. They have joined the redeemed host, where they will ever live in the divine

presence in the fulness of joy. The Secretary of the North Georgia Conference Society passed into rest in November last, and the Secretary of the Western North Carolina Conference Society in the month of May. Quite impossible it is to tell of their great worth—their deeds of love, their errands of mercy, their ministrations in the house of God. Our loss is their eternal gain; but we miss them, miss them as helpers in the great cause of missions. As we look about us to-day, noting their vacant places, our hearts are full of sadness, and we long to see them again. Mrs. Morgan Callaway and Mrs. F. M. Bumpass, sisters beloved, though dead, speak to us, saying: "Go forward, do not suffer our absence to make you faint-hearted. Your Lord needs your service, your best service; render it, and some sweet day we will meet and greet you, where you shall see the King in his beauty."

Surely a larger constituency is imperative, a larger membership of careful students and thinkers, as well as of givers, is demanded. Missionary literature, no matter how abundant, avails little, unless used; so that great tact and skill should be brought to bear in our auxiliaries, that each woman may become acquainted with her *duty* as a Christian, as well as her *privilege* as an intelligent worker. Above all things, a glorious revival of scriptural holiness is needed, that power from on high come down upon us, as upon the disciples at Pentecost. We believe that God's people "will be made willing in the day of his power," and prayer should be unceasing that power may come speedily. There is no mistake that calls from every land come to us, and China, Korea, Mexico, and South America no longer bound the horizon of our desires. To occupy *all* lands, to evangelize all nations, is becoming the measure of our faith. Africa opens her dark doors and bids us enter. The isles of the sea stretch out their hands and cry aloud for relief from sin and suffering.

At a recent meeting of the Local Board the following resolution was spread upon the minutes:

"*Resolved*, That as our General Board has decided to open mission work in the island of Cuba as soon as possible, the Woman's Board, at the coming annual meeting, appropriate a sum sufficient to follow the General Board into that field."

Are we ready to meet the demand? There is pressing need of medical missionaries in the fields we now occupy, need of women for our hospitals, and teachers for the natives who go to the hospitals for help. The gospel of healing should go hand in hand with the Word of God.

I think it necessary to stress again the need of larger supplies of missionary literature. I believe the Board fully realizes this want, and feels anxious to meet it. In order to do this there should be an appropriation from the contingent fund, subject to the call of the Publishing Committee, to print books, prepare maps, charts, and other appliances for advancing intelligent interest in the work. Such publications, for which a moderate charge will be made, may soon return to the treasury the sum expended, and in time add largely to our resources.

By action of the Board, at the last annual session, Mrs. I. G. John was requested to put upon record short sketches of all the missionaries employed by the Woman's Board during the past twenty years. After months of ef-

fort in seeking to secure the information needed, the work has been accomplished, as well as circumstances permitted, and it remains with the Board to put in printed form this record for the use of the societies. A roll-book, similar in form to those in use by other Women's Boards, could be published at little cost, and sold for about fifteen cents a copy. "The Oak Street Missionary Society," a gift last year to the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, by the author, Mrs. Leech, of Nashville, was recently printed in very attractive form and sold at ten cents per copy. This amount met all expenses of publication and distribution of the first edition of one thousand, with a surplus of $17.20. As calls have come for another edition, and $17.20 is in hand toward the necessary expense, I hope a sufficient number of orders may justify me in getting out another thousand copies. All funds from this little book, beyond the cost of publication, have been donated, at the author's instance, to our missionary treasury.

A valuable, though inexpensive, work on China will come from the press very soon, which the Board may handle at small cost also. Dr. W. R. Lambuth, Secretary of the General Board of Missions, is negotiating for this book, and will prepare an introductory chapter to it, which will greatly enhance its value. In order to secure it I hope this Board will advance $50, the price of two hundred copies. At twenty-five cents each, this price will meet the appropriation, and can be returned to the treasury.

Another matter with regard to literature, will, I trust, commend itself to your favorable notice. Materials are at hand for sketches in booklet form, of Mrs. D. H. McGavock of precious memory, and Miss Dora Rankin, the first missionary of our Board who died at her post. Should not material so valuable be utilized for the cause of foreign missions? Not only should this be done because memories so sacred ought to be put in permanent form, for the inspiration of our societies now, but be preserved as a grand inheritance for our children, that they may rightly value our efforts, revere the names we love, and shape their own lives after such eminent characters. The preparation and printing of these will not exceed $200 each. This sum will soon be returned, and yet the books can be put on sale at the low price of twenty-five cents. The Publishing Committee should have at its disposal an available sum for such printing from time to time. "There is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

The *Woman's Missionary Advocate* has a subscription-list of 12,717 and a circulation of 14,500. Very easily the subscription can be made 15,000, and 15,000 will not only meet present expenses, but suffice to enlarge the paper, adding at least four pages to its present size. This enlargement is a necessity, I think, that maps and pictures may appear every month, and larger supplies of reading-matter be furnished the societies. The editor should be authorized to insert suitable advertisements from time to time, though its subscription-list should be kept large enough to fully sustain the paper without advertisements. Very nobly and speedily did the Conference Secretaries come to the help of the *Advocate*, when I sent out the note of alarm in December last. It is, as you can attest, worth the subscription price. I wish the editor had time to show you testimonials from all parts of our work where the *Advocate* is taken and read, which bear witness to the high

appreciation in which the paper is held. Why may not each Conference Secretary pledge her Conference Society to maintain the subscription-list at a certain figure all the year? Such pledges will impress its value, keep the paper in mind, and, if sufficiently large, will relieve the Board from all apprehension of debt. A pledge need not embarrass one, as it does not mean an attempt at the impossible. I urge you to try the plan for this year at least. As you conscientiously make a pledge for the contribution for your Conference Societies, and make conscientious efforts to reach the sum named, *if possible*, so I trust you will fix your subscription-list for the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, and keep it at those figures, if possible. Mrs. Butler has your subscription-lists with her. Consult them and add to them. The subscription last year greatly increased during the winter. Amount received from all sources, $5,465.15; amount expended, including salaries and office expenses of editor and mailing agent, $5,469.15 to May 1, 1898. If the income could be kept at $6,000 even, there would be an ample sum to meet the publication and other expenses.

Leaflets continue in favor, and the demand for them for the coming year is in excess of last. They are used in the monthly meetings, in the home, and distributed wherever they can be of use. The time has not come yet when we can dispense with them, nor can we yet afford to discontinue their gratuitous distribution.

The *Little Worker*, the children's paper, did not cost the Board as much this year as it did last, yet it is far from self-sustaining.

EXPENSES OF LITTLE WORKER FROM MAY 1, 1897, TO MAY 1, 1898.

Amount paid Publishing House	$1,444 90
Salary for editor	750 00
Salary for agent	100 00
Office expenses of editor	300 00
Office expenses of agent	21 54
Amount paid Publishing House for Engraving Co.	50 56
Amount paid Treasurer of Woman's Board	324 24
Total	$2,991 24
By subscriptions	$1,554 78
By balance from 1896–97	324 24
By two years' subscriptions from Methodist Publishing House	55 00
Total	$1,934 02

After investigation I find the cost exceeds largely that of any other juvenile monthly of the same size. When the paper was projected—rather when it was adopted from the North Georgia Conference Society—it was decided that should it not become self-supporting in the course of a few years it would be discontinued. It is one of the best juvenile periodicals I have ever examined, and its value to our juvenile work can not be overestimated; but I feel confident that some plan could be devised that would reduce the cost, and increase the circulation, and, at the same time, keep its present size and form. As I have said, the expense during the past

year is not so great as the year previous, but its subscriptions have not met office expenses and salary of editor. Amount received from subscriptions, etc., $1,934.02; amount expended for publishing, salary, etc., $2,971.24—the cost to the Board being $1,037,22 to May 1, 1898.

Life-Memberships.—A large number of life-memberships have been made—over two hundred—but not as many as we had hoped. A life-member in each auxiliary was the measure of our prayers. There yet remains in the minds of some a doubt as to the disposition of funds from this source. The $20 of a life-member goes into the general fund to send out missionaries, to sustain the work already projected, and to extend it. Such money can not be used for Bible women, scholarships, or any special. Mite-box collections and thank-offerings may be used to make life-members, provided the money is not reported twice. Thus, if $20 given as a thank-offering be used to make a life-member, the amount may be reported as life-membership money, but not as thank-offering money at the same time. I hope it may be a special object with each of our District Secretaries to see that one life-member is made in each of her auxiliaries during the coming year.

Mite-Boxes.—Over twelve thousand of these little missionary collectors have been sent out this past year, an unusually large number, but they should come into yet more general use among our adult members, as well as our juveniles. It is well to ever keep before our societies the condition of membership, the required fees. These fees can not be diverted from the treasury for any special, and should be collected every month, if possible. Ten cents a month for adults and young people, five cents a month for children, will not be a burden if thus paid. The young people's fees should be the same as the adults'. One adult society transferred their membership to a young people's because the dues were less! I was glad they were willing to hold their membership even at a reduced price, rather than disband, as some have done, but it is not wise to be unconstitutional!

The Conference Societies, in a majority of cases, have made decided gains this year in new organizations, in new members, and in contributions. South Georgia stands first in the number of new adult organizations; South Carolina and Virginia, next; and Florida, next. In the number of additional adult members North Georgia comes first; Southwest Missouri, second; Florida, third; and Tennessee, fourth. In the number of new Young People's and Juvenile Societies during the year Florida reports the largest number, as well as the greatest increase in members. The largest total membership is in North Georgia Conference Society; South Georgia, next; Virginia, third; and South Carolina, forth.

The special for Korea by the children amounts to $4,427.05. Of this amount, South Carolina has raised the largest sum and South Georgia next. Unless the amount contributed for this fund in the June quarter is added in, and thus changes the figures, South Carolina will give name to our Korea Mission Home, and South Georgia give the name to the chapel in the building.

Bible Women and Other Specials.—As one of our evangelical agencies native Bible women are of supreme importance. These women, when equipped for the work, can do incalculable good, as they enter the homes

of their countrywomen and offer them the bread of life. They, having known the distress of heathenism and the happiness of salvation through Christ, are better fitted to advocate the cause of Christ and to sympathize with their own people, since their habits, temptations, processes of thought, and language are all familiar, and they can bring God's warnings and gracious promises much more readily to meet each experience than a foreigner can. Do not neglect this feature of the work; but, at the same time, bear in mind that a first-class Bible women at home needs much preparation before she can effectively use the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, which might do harm in unskilled hands. It is more difficult for one born and nourished amid the darkness of heathenism to teach God's Word; hence the delay attendant upon the application for a native Bible woman. There is a uniform price in every field of labor for Bible women and scholarships —$60 a year for a Bible woman, $40 for a scholarship. The full amount in every case to be in the hands of the General Treasurer before sending any part of it to the field. If one wishes to undertake a special, first communicate the fact to the Secretary in Nashville, giving her the name and address of the person to whom reports of the special should be sent. Arrangements are then made with the missionary in charge of the field selected, that the list at home may correspond with the list in the mission, and no confusion result. As soon as the money reaches the General Treasurer, who is first instructed as to its object, the Secretary is notified of the fact by the person sending it, and an order is at once made out for its being sent to the field. Usually $100 is allowed to maintain a day-school, but as day-schools vary in number of pupils and in the rent of suitable rooms, the amount is sometimes increased, though day-schools, as specials, never exceed $150. The matter of specials need give no trouble, and will not, if directions above mentioned are carefully followed. In corresponding with our home workers I found in several Conference Societies a tendency to violate the constitution in regard to the use of money contributed in our auxiliaries. One auxiliary, by vote, turned over some six or seven dollars of its funds to another organization, giving as a reason for their action that they had met all dues and pledges, and the other organization needed help; and they were also members of the two organizations! There was no intention on the part of the society to set the constitution at naught, but a misapprehension of the prerogatives of a society whose pledge had been met. Money secured by a foreign missionary society can not be diverted from the use of the society, even by a majority vote. Any one member contributing money to foreign missions, through the proper channels, has a right to expect it used for foreign missions; and a vote of a majority, or even a unanimous vote, can not legally dispose of it for any other purpose. Neither can the education in secular schools, or in Church schools, of one who wishes to prepare herself for foreign missions, no matter how promising the candidate or needy she is, be undertaken by one of our foreign missionary societies. This is not only unconstitutional, but, if allowed, would lead to serious trouble. Applications would crowd upon us and funds intended to sustain missionaries in the field would be called for by home schools, and the Woman's Board become a coveted feeder of the same. If Presidents of

home schools wish to help the cause of foreign missions, let them give the privileges of the school to some worthy applicant for one year; let such an applicant teach the next year, return the funds advanced, and again enter the school for another year, and so on, until graduation. The delay in such preparation, as well as the experience in self-support, will be invaluable to one who wishes to do effective work in foreign lands. The space for reporting Bible women, ordered by the Board last year, will be attended to when new blanks have to be printed. There was a supply on hand when the order was given.

Scarritt Bible and Training School.—As the years go by, more and more does this valuable Bible college gain upon the judgment and affections of our people. I visited this institution in April, and was much gratified with every department of the work. The school does not profess to supply a high degree of scholarship in general study. For this reason, it is especially necessary that a candidate for foreign work be fully prepared in the branches of higher education necessary for a well-equipped teacher, before entering for the two years' course of Bible study required before she can be appointed to the foreign field. The responsibility of recommending a candidate rests largely with the executive committee of each Conference Society. The necessity of reliable testimonials of the intellectual training, as well as of the spiritual fitness of the candidate, is apparent, and personal intercourse with the applicant should be sought if possible. Heathen people are ignorant of a knowledge of saving grace, but all of them are not grossly ignorant of literature, science, and art. We can not expect the training-school to supply the lack of scholarship, though it may qualify those who lack general scholarship to become Bible teachers of spiritual power; but the Board finds a native Bible woman, under the supervision of a well-qualified missionary, not only best fitted for such work, but able and willing to work on a smaller appropriation. Hereafter the Board should send out only those able to teach all the branches of a fair education, as well as the Bible. Since the action of the Board at its last annual session makes it obligatory upon foreign missionary candidates to graduate in the two years' course in the Scarritt Bible and Training-School, each of our Conference Societies should have a scholarship in that school. Those Conference Societies that have not yet finished the $2,500 necessary to secure a scholarship, and have a candidate, should have the privilege of using the scholarship of a Conference Society having a scholarship and having no present use for it. It is very easy to secure one of these vacant scholarships by writing to the Principal, Miss M. L. Gibson, then asking the consent of the Conference Society holding the scholarship.

Our Children.—It is desirable that the Conference Secretaries continue to superintend their juvenile work, as they have during the past year; but an organizer, who will work under the direction of the Conference Secretary, would add greatly to the success of the work, and make the Conference Secretary's work lighter, as well as please the children and encourage the juvenile managers. Secure such an organizer when possible.

The following memorial from the last annual Board to the late General Conference met with ready assent:

"To the General Conference of the M. E. Church, South.

"*Dear Brethren:* At the annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions in 1896 the following resolution was put on record:

"We, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, memorialize the next General Conference to provide space in the blank forms of statistics, for reporting the statistics of the Woman's Board of Missions.

"MRS. W. C. BRANDON, *Chairman of Committee.*"

At a recent meeting of the Woman's Board in Nashville the following memorials were also agreed upon unanimously:

"Article II. of the Constitution framed by the General Conference of 1878, for the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, reads: 'The object of this society shall be to enlist and unite the efforts of the women and *children* in sending the gospel,' etc. We beg that no change be made in the Discipline which shall take the children from our organization and give them exclusively to the general work."

Again:

"We pray that Articles IV., X., and XI., of the constitution may be changed as follows: 'The Board shall consist of a President, *two* Vice-Presidents, *one* or *more* Secretaries, a Treasurer,' etc., instead of as it now stands, 'The Board shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, two Secretaries, one to administer the foreign, the other the home, affairs of the Society; a Treasurer,' etc."

It is not for the well-being of the work of the Board to divorce the home work from the foreign, creating two distinct offices, one for the home work, the other for foreign.

"Article X., which reads, 'The Foreign Secretary shall conduct the correspondence,' etc., shall read, 'The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence and attend to all legal business of the Board, prepare the Annual Report, publish quarterly statements of the condition, both at home and in the foreign field, give all orders on the treasury, and reside where the Board of Missions is located.'

"Article XI., we beg may be omitted as unnecessary."

The following is the recommendation of the committee, which was adopted by the General Conference:

"Your Committee on Missions beg leave to report. We have considered the memorials submitted to us from the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, as follows:

"1. A memorial asking that space be provided in blank forms of statistics for reporting the statistics of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. We recommend that the memorial be granted.

"2. Also a memorial asking that no change be made in the Discipline which shall take the children from their organization and give them exclusively to the General Board. The committee takes pleasure in saying that, so far as we are informed, there has not been and will not be any legislation intended to effect that result.

"Also a memorial, asking for changes in the Constitution of the Woman's Board in reference to the Secretaries. We recommend the following changes: Paragraph 363, Article IV., page 155, line two, strike out the words, 'a Vice-

President, two Secretaries, one to administer the foreign, the other the home, affairs of the society,' and insert the words, 'two Vice-Presidents, one or more Secretaries.' The paragraph as amended will read: 'The Board shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, one or more Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, and six managers (to be elected quadrennially at the annual meeting next succeeding the session of the General Conference), and the Corresponding Secretaries, or alternates, of the Conference Societies. The Secretaries of the Board of Missions shall be honorary members of the Woman's Board.'

"Paragraph 369, Article X., page 155, first line, strike out the word 'Foreign' and insert the word 'Corresponding,' and in the third line strike out the words 'foreign field and insert the word 'Board.' The amended paragraph will read: 'The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence and attend to all the legal business of the Board, prepare the Annual Report, publish quarterly statements of the condition both at home and in the foreign field, give all orders on the treasury, and reside where the Board of Missions is located.'

"Paragraph 370, Article XI., be stricken out entirely.

"F. D. SWINDELL, *Secretary.* R. N. SLEDD, *Chairman.*"

The article in the Discipline which said, "Every Sunday-school, when practicable, shall be organized into a missionary society, auxiliary to the General Board of Missions," etc., occasioned some misapprehension, and many pastors failed to look after this particular feature of Church work; so the words "when practicable" were stricken out. Fearing this would embarrass our Board, whose constituency is largely children, I inquired of the proper authorities and was assured that the article referred to would not affect us at all. We are to hold our juveniles and organize as before. The object of the ruling was to induce pastors to do, as in Methodism it has been done for years: give one Sunday in the month to the study of missions, the lesson for which is usually provided for by the International Sunday-School Committee, and the collection taken that day be devoted to missions. If the Conference Secretaries, through their District Secretaries or substitutes, will visit their societies and organize, and our General Managers will give careful oversight of their territory, attending the Annual Conferences and the Annual Conference Societies in each, the work would make more rapid advancement. I think our Managers will gladly do this. A few of them have done much in visiting and organizing. I most heartily commend this plan, and hope our Managers will make it a part of their work to attend these annual gatherings above mentioned, and bring report of same to the Board, and publish them in our Church papers.

May I suggest that some specific duties be assigned the Second Vice-President? Would it not be well for her to secure the names and addresses of the Presidents of Conference Societies, and write to each twice a year? Let the letters be filled with words of cheer and encouragement, as well as with profitable suggestions. Wherever possible may not this officer also assist in organizing and visiting?

Week of Thanksgiving and Prayer, which comes every year the latter part of November, including the National Thanksgiving day, has grown in favor

as the years pass by. Wherever observed prayerfully it has been followed by signs of increased spirituality and great financial returns. Should not preparation be made for a more special observance the coming November? The Editor of Leaflets will doubtless give us an attractive program for each day; and the Editor of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* would, if requested, make the November number a special one, containing articles suitable for the occasion. Our young people should be encouraged to observe this season, either by daily meetings in connection with the adult societies, or special services of their own.

The Twilight Hour.—This time, agreed upon some years ago as suitable for daily united petition to God for blessings upon our work, is not the best time for a concert of prayer. Will you not select some other time, and let a notice of the same stand in a conspicuous place in our *Missionary Advocate*, month after month, as long as prayer is needed? Twilight is not definite enough. It is difficult to keep it in mind, since there is daily variation, and no habits, good or bad, can be fixed on a variable observance.

Extension of Work.—The wisdom of last year's extension is manifest not only in the City of Mexico and in Korea, the newly occupied ground, but upon our workers at home. The quickening influence has been felt throughout our borders, and increase in members and collections has resulted, notwithstanding the scourge and floods in many of our states. Let us be in readiness to take the gospel to the Cubans in their own land, and into Africa, too, as soon as our General Board enters. As some one recently very pertinently said, our Southern people owe it to Africa to give it the gospel. The Negro has a right to expect it of us, so long associated as he was, in all the affairs of our home life, faithful and true, under temptations very severe oftentimes.

Our collections are approaching $100,000 a year, and could easily reach it if every Conference Society would determine to add a few names to its membership. Some one recently suggested a pledge of $5 from each member. Suppose each Conference Society decided to adopt this plan for the coming year! It makes me glad to think of it! Why not try it?

Maps, Charts, etc.—Our General Board has it in mind to prepare better maps of our various mission fields. Will not the Woman's Board share a part of such expense, that our auxiliaries may have equal facilities as the General Board? Good maps will add much toward making the monthly, quarterly, and annual meetings more effective and attractive. I had a chart made, at a cost of $3.50, which shows our work at a glance. It was prepared for the Student Volunteer Convention, that met at Cleveland, Ohio, February last. The showing was creditable, and our statistics compared favorably with those of other Boards.

Annual Reports, Leaflets, *Woman's Missionary Advocate, Little Worker*, Mission Studies, specimen copies of all our literature, were on exhibition at the Convention; but I regretted that there were not larger supplies for this exhibition. The duty of increasing our stock in the present condition of the work, and the magnificent future opening before us, is pressing. I shall not in the limits of this paper attempt to convey any idea of the Cleveland Convention of last February. Suffice it to say, I believe, if all the member-

ship of our organization had been present to hear the inspiring addresses and to feel the quickening power of God's spirit so manifest from the opening to the closing, there would be such a revival of foreign missionary zeal as our Church never before experienced. I wish most heartily that all could have been there.

Ecumenical Missionary Convention of April, 1900.—During the Cleveland Convention the Secretaries of the Women's Boards of Missions who were present had a meeting to consider some plans with reference to this proposed great council, in which all missionary organizations of all countries will take part. Ten questions of importance on the subject of missions indicate the part that the Women's Boards will have in that Convention. The Secretary appointed to make arrangements for the great Council wrote last winter, asking if our Board would cooperate. After consulting the Board, I wrote that we would gladly do so. Preparation should be made in good time for fulfilling our part of the program. So very well understood is the importance of public meetings and discussions on the great missionary problems of the day that few, even of our auxiliaries, regard public meetings as unnecessary, and a more general observance of these may be noted.

Supplies Called For.—The Secretaries, in order to meet the demands of their societies, call for the following materials: Twentieth Annual Reports, 7,500; Summaries, 13,000; Leaflets for Adults, 59,826; Leaflets for Young People, 19,566; Leaflets for Juveniles, 45,531; Slips, etc.; How to Organize Adult Societies, 2,000; How to Organize Young People and Juvenile Societies, 1,150; Adult Constitutions, 3,000; Young People and Juvenile Constitutions, 2,000; Duties of Officers and Members, 5,000.

Before half of last year had expired, the supply of the Nineteenth Annual Report was exhausted, so we need a larger number for this year. New mite-boxes are also needed, and an appropriation for making at least 10,000 should be made.

The "Duties of Officers and Members" was revised by Mrs. I. G. John, according to action of the Board, and last June printed and distributed after revision. The demand shows the estimation in which this valuable leaflet is held. A District Secretary, not long since, wrote to me that the distribution of this leaflet had led to the organization of a new auxilliary in her district and revived a number of old ones whose zeal was flagging.

Item 20, page 126, Nineteenth Annual Report of Committee on Publication should be more generally observed. The Southwest Missouri Conference Society, which has conducted its operations on the basis suggested, has found it very satisfactory.

In the Report of Missionary Candidates, a resolution was brought in and adopted, as found on page 125, Nineteenth Annual Report, which should be incorporated in "Requirements of Missionary Candidates," on page 143, between Articles V. and VI. Articles XI., XII., and XV., page 125, Committee on Extension, should hereafter appear under the head of "Instructions to Missionaries," page 141, and the resolution on page 118, in regard to specials, be also recorded under same head.

It would be well to publish once a year, at least, in the *Missionary Advocate*, "Requirements of Missionary Candidates," and "Instructions to Mis-

sionaries," that our missionaries be reminded frequently of the provisions for their guidance, and candidates be able to note conditions of acceptance.

The following report of Mrs. J. D. Hamilton, who so kindly assists the Secretary of the Board in sending out mite-boxes, Treasurer's books, etc., shows that demand for these things does not abate:

From April 1, 1897, to April 1, 1898, number of mite-boxes sent out	12,109
Life-membership certificates	201
Honorary life-membership certificate	1
Honorary life-patron certificate	1
By sale of Treasurer's books, amount for which was turned over to the General Treasurer	$ 39 20
By sale of sundries	1 20
To meet postage, etc	121 08

It is necessary to keep a larger balance in the treasury than we had last year, or to see that more money is put into the treasury the first and second quarters of the fiscal year. The drafts for the July and September quarters of the fiscal year. The drafts for the July and September quarters of last year had to wait after the orders were given, because there was not money enough to meet them. Suppose each Conference Secretary tries to collect one-fourth of her pledge each quarter. How much better it would be! Surprisingly and beautifully our last March quarter came up. The hearts of all rejoiced when it was announced that over $34,000 came in then. Three quarters had passed, and the fear of serious shortage was pressing upon us; but our godly women doubled their efforts, and, with prayer and faith, they succeeded, and the last quarter exceeded both June and September combined. Faith moves mountains. Let us work and pray and trust as never before. The worthies mentioned in Hebrews "through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire," etc., and we shall come off more than conquerors if we use the same means. Let us work and pray and trust without murmuring, without complaining. If our members grow indifferent and drop out, secure others; if our societies disband, seek to encourage and induce them to try again, or organize new ones; if our juveniles are diverted from our work, seek to renew their interest, and keep close to the heart of God, who knows our desires, and understands our motives, and *will* answer our prayers. As the years come and go, our working, praying members love the work more, and more fully understand the place that foreign missions holds in the Bible—its clear teachings on the evangelization of the *whole world*. It is marvelous how God's Spirit shows us these things when we are willing to be taught. I once heard a minister say that, in the beginning of his ministry, when obliged to preach on foreign missions, he searched for some time, in vain, for a suitable text for his sermon; but after God had roused his conscience, by the power of his Spirit, he found the Bible full of foreign mission texts. The Bible is full of foreign missions; only a blind man can fail to see it. Let Christ's thoughts on this subject be our thoughts; let Christ's standard be our standard. Let his

standard of *giving* as well as of *thinking* be ours. Christ would have every gift a sacrifice, warm and bright with love.

The Board sends out its missionaries under the implied pledge of the membership it represents, and every member covenants to stand by the projected work, as long as there is need. Not to do so would be dishonorable alike to God and the work.

I am glad to report growth. The office work is much increased. The work abroad has enlarged, and I feel sure your prayers have been unceasing that this should be so. Another year greater things should be accomplished. Instead of six hundred additional members, and $3,000 increase in collections, I trust there may be thousands of new members, and our coveted $100,000 in the treasury.

Office expenses of Secretary from June, 1897, to June, 1898	$469 57	
To balance June, 1897		$ 24 60
To amount from Treasurer		500 00
By balance June 1, 1898	55 03	
	$524 60	$524 60

On motion of Miss Gibson, the consideration of this report was made the order of business immediately after the reading of the minutes Saturday morning. After announcements Miss Gibson took charge of the devotional exercises. The talks of the morning on Brazil and the laying bare of our needs and possibilities as a Woman's Foreign Missionary Society by our Home Secretary's report had so impressed her with the great responsibilities resting upon us, and our present insufficiency to meet the demands of the hour, that she said she could only bring *one subject* before us, "The Promise of Power from on High." She read the two mighty promises of enduement from Above in Matthew xxviii. 19, 20, and Acts i. 8; and then turned to the vision of the fulfilment of these promises given in Revelation vii. 9, 10. The strength, wisdom, and power available and offered to the sons and daughters of the Lord God Almighty were forcibly presented, and after prayers by Bishop Galloway and Mrs. Hargrove that the fulness of this power might rest upon every one present, the morning session was adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for its second business session Saturday, June 4, at 9 A.M. The devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. I. G. John. Hymn 134 was sung and Mrs. J. E. Musick led in prayer. The subject chosen by Mrs. John for consideration was "The Majesty of God in the Church," and she read the fiftieth Psalm, which depicts God's glory among his saints

and his pleasure in their obedience and not in formal worship, after which Mrs. Hargrove led in prayer. The minutes of Friday's session were read and approved. Misses Bessie Grisham and Ethel Ridge were introduced as pages for the day. By request of the President the Secretary read the Rules of Order. The consideration of the report of the Secretary of Home Affairs was the order of business assigned to this hour; and, on motion of Mrs. Swindell, it was considered by items.

Item 1. The appropriation of a larger sum of money for the printing of missionary literature. Referred to Committees on Finance and Publication.

Item 2. The printing of the lives of our missionaries, material having been collected by Mrs. John as requested by the Board at its last annual session. Referred to Committee on Publication.

Item 3. The necessity of advancing the sum of $50 to secure an interest in a booklet on China, soon to be issued by the Parent Board. Also the publication of memoirs of Mrs. D. H. McGavock and Miss Dora Rankin. Referred to Committee on Publication.

Item 4. Pledges by Conference Secretaries of certain numbers of subscriptions to *Woman's Missionary Advocate*. Lost.

Item 5. Leaflets. Referred to Committee on Publication.

Item 6. *Little Worker*. Referred to Committee on Publication.

Item 7. Life-memberships. Approved. The Board directed that this item be placed in permanent form for future reference, and a special committee composed of Miss Gibson, Mrs. Swindell, and Mrs. Harris were appointed to formulate it.

Item 8. Special raised by the children for Korea. After discussion the action of the Board regarding this special at its last annual session was interpreted to cover *one year* included between June 1, 1897, and June 1, 1898.

Item 9. Bible women. Adopted after amendment.

Item 10. The diverting of funds raised by our auxiliaries to the use of any other organization. Referred to Committee on Memorials.

Item 11. Literary education of foreign mission candidates. Adopted.

Item 12. Lending of scholarships in Scarritt Bible and Training School. Adopted.

Item 13. Memorial presented to General Conference by action of Local Board. Action postponed until the minutes of the Local Board should be presented to the body.

Item 14. Week of Thanksgiving and Prayer. Adopted.

Item 15. Changing the hour of prayer. The hour unchanged.

Item 16. Supplies called for. Adopted.

Mrs. Cheatham moved that the election of officers for the next quadrennium be made the order of business for Monday morning after reading of minutes. Carried.

Mrs. Trueheart read a communication from the Parent Board regarding the joint action of the two Boards in the dissemination of missionary literature. Referred to Committee on Extension. She also presented a communication from the missionaries of our several fields asking that stronger emphasis be placed on Bible study in all our mission schools. Referred to Committee on Extension.

The two following memorials were presented from the North Georgia Conference Society:

No. 1. While the North Georgia Conference Society has always made large orders for leaflets, and has made every effort to have them distributed and read, we have come to believe that the demand for this kind of missionary literature is not so great as it was in the early history of our work. We therefore ask the Woman's Board to diminish the number and expense of the leaflets and take steps to enlarge and improve the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and *Little Worker;* making these papers the medium for sending out the best grade of missionary facts and incidents. We believe this will increase the popularity of the *Advocate* and *Little Worker*, and adapt them to the general taste and wants of those whom we desire to read them.

No. 2. Inasmuch as it is natural that the North Georgia Conference Society should feel a *maternal* interest in the *Little Worker*, and since she has always tried to evince that interest by a creditable list of subscribers, she would respectfully ask the Woman's Board not only to continue its publication, but by all means to make such appropriations for its benefit as will serve to increase its attractiveness and its helpfulness in educating the young people for whom it is intended. As a Conference Society we would also most unanimously endorse its editor, our own Miss Barnes, and express our confidence in her management, and our appreciation of her peculiar fitness for the position she fills.

Both were referred to Committee on Memorials.

The Secretary read an invitation from the auxiliaries of Austin, Tex., that the Board would hold its next annual session in that city. Mrs. Matthews, of the South Georgia Conference, presented an invitation to the same effect from Macon, Ga.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, Superintendent of West Market Street Methodist Sunday-school, was introduced to the Board and cordially invited its members and visitors to be present at the Sabbath-school exercises at 9:30 Sabbath morning, and to take part in a

Bible class to be taught by Mrs. Hargrove, of the Scarritt Bible and Training School.

Dr. W. B. Palmore, editor of the *St. Louis Advocate*, was introduced to the body; also Mrs. Peal, President of the Mission Board of the Friend's Church; Mrs. Moody, Secretary of that Board; and Mrs. Jones, former President of the auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church of Greensboro.

The devotional exercises were led by Mrs. McIntosh. Her theme was "Prayer," and she used Mark xi. 24 and Romans viii. 26 as the basis of her remarks, bringing forcibly to the minds of her hearers the need of meeting the conditions of successful prayer; that God intended each prayer to receive its answer, and failure here rested upon the suppliant. After several voluntary prayers the morning session was adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for the third business session Monday June 6, at 9 A.M. Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Melone, who read as the Scripture lesson John xv. 1–8. After prayer by Rev. H. C. Tucker, Mrs. Melone, taking Luke ii. 41–44 as the basis of her remarks, made an earnest and impressive talk on the subject: "Losing a day from Jesus' company and not knowing it." She called attention to the length of time often required to find Him again, and urged closest watch that we go not a step of our way without His blessed companionship. After prayer the President called the meeting to order and business began. Minutes of Saturday's session were read and approved. Misses Annie Porter and Minnie Quate and Master Wilton Abbey were introduced as pages for the day. Mrs. Cheatham begged a reconsideration of her motion on Saturday to make the election of officers the first business of this morning's session, as she had since been convinced that the work of the body was not sufficiently advanced to make the election at this juncture advisable. Granted. Miss Gibson moved that the regular order of business, which had been interrupted by necessary changes in the program, be taken up, and that the President's annual address now be heard. Mrs. Wightman read her annual address. In most appropriate words she presented the wonderful opportunities of the hour, and the weighty responsibilities resting upon the women who live in this favored age. She called attention to the signs of the times in our own and heathen lands, portents that perhaps mighty changes are just ahead, and prophecy about to be fulfilled: The "little one shall become a

thousand, and the small one a great nation: I the Lord, will hasten it in its time." She paid loving tribute to the lives and work of Hannah Ball, Florence Nightingale, Clara Barton, and Frances Willard, asserting that "they and we are all of one mind, to make Jesus King.

Mrs. Trueheart moved that a telegram be sent Mrs. A. P. Parker conveying our sympathy and love. The following telegram was sent: "Sympathy and prayers. 1 Thessalonians i. 2, 3; 3 John ii. Mary L. Hargrove, Recording Secretary." The Treasurer presented her annual report. After the auditor's report was read it was adopted.

Mrs. Swindell moved that the action of the Board regarding the Children's Special for Korea during Saturday's session be reconsidered, and that the time for the collection of this special end, as all other collections, on March 1. Carried.

On motion of Miss Gibson the Board directed that a letter of thanks and appreciation be sent Mrs. M. W. Watkins, of New York City, who is such a kind friend of this Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and so substantially manifests her interest and love. Miss Gibson was appointed to write this letter. The report of the agent for *Woman's Missionary Advocate* was read by Mrs. Butler and referred to Committees on Finance and Publication.

REPORT OF MRS. F. A. BUTLER, AGENT WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ADVOCATE.

Dr.

Balance on hand May 1, 1897		$ 71 15	
Amount received from subscriptions		5,379 14	
Amount received from sale of maps		18 96	$5,469 15

Cr.

By amount paid Publishing House	$3,624 79		
By amount paid Editor and Agent	1,200 00		
By amount paid Miss Lena Freeman	500 00		
By amount of office expenses	80 66		5,405 45
Balance on hand May 1, 1898			$ 63 70

MRS. F. A. BUTLER, *Agent.*

The report of the Agent for the *Little Worker* was read by Miss Barnes, and referred to the Committees on Finance and Publication.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR LITTLE WORKER.

Dr.

Balance on hand May 1, 1897		$ 324 24	
Amount received from subscriptions to May 1, 1898		1,554 78	
Amount received from advertisements		55 00	$1,934 02

Cr.

By amount paid Publishing House	$1,444 90	
By amount paid Press Engraving Company	30 56	
By amount paid for stamps, etc., in office	21 54	
By amount paid to Treasurer Woman's Board of Foreign Missions	324 24	$1,821 24
Balance on hand May 1, 1898		$ 112 78

Miss Lena Freeman, *Agent.*

Mrs. A. W. Wilson presented the report of the Editor of Leaflets.

Report of Editor of Leaflets.

Number of copies of leaflets issued from June, 1897, to June, 1898, 546,000. Number of pages of same, 1,908,000. Cost of publishing and mailing, $796.44. Thirty-six leaflets were issued—23 of two pages each, 6 of four pages each, 5 of six pages each, 1 of eight pages, and 2 of ten pages.

Mrs. A. W. Wilson, *Editor.*

Report of Treasurer of Memorial Fund.

Amount received for the year ending June 1, 1898.....$93 15

R. Virginia Cloud, *Treasurer.*

The words of earnest appreciation of the work and spirit of this Board spoken by Rev. H. C. Tucker, as he bade its members good-by, will not soon be forgotten.

The minutes of the meetings of the Local Board were read by Mrs. Trueheart.

Minutes of the Meetings of the Local Board.

The first meeting of the Local Board, after annual session in Birmingham, Ala., June 2, 1897, was held June 21, 1897. The business which called the meeting was at Miss A. M. Barnes's request, for information in regard to the Little Workers' Special—the Baby Roll, the Shiners, and mite-boxes. It was ordered that all amounts from these sources should be turned over to the General Treasurer, and a statement to that effect should appear in the columns of the *Little Worker*, and the children be notified in the same way to forward all moneys through the regular channels. The Baby Roll was discontinued, and the mite-boxes were to be pink like the adults', with the name of the organization on them, that the children might feel in close touch with the Woman's Board.

Miss Ross having requested $50 advanced to make some purchases before leaving for Brazil, the request was considered, but not granted, as traveling expenses and salary for the quarter had been advanced a few days before.

Miss Norville's traveling expenses to the City of Mexico were ordered paid out of the Contingent Fund, as no provision had been made previously.

At the next called meeting, July 22, resolutions in regard to the sad be-

reavement which had come to our President, in the death of a beloved sister, were framed, endorsed, and ordered spread upon the minutes, and a copy sent to Mrs. Wightman.

Dr. Mildred Philips Leech's request to again be appointed to missionary work in China was considered, but it was thought inadvisable to send to the foreign field as a missionary any woman having small children.

August 19 the Board was called to receive the resignation of Miss Sallie B. Reynolds, of the China Mission, whose approaching marriage with Dr. Gilbert Reid, of the Peking Presbyterian Mission, had been decided upon. The resignation was accepted, although the required six months' notice had not been observed, but the expenses of travel to this country, that the marriage might take place at home, were not granted.

At the next meeting of the Board, October 2, $300 of the appropriation for Mexico City was ordered forwarded at once, because no suitable building could be secured without it, and the danger of crippling the school was imminent.

The order to proceed with the building of the Hayes-Wilkins Memorial was sent Miss Haygood, the funds for the same having already been forwarded.

A letter from Orlando, Fla., from W. J. Carpenter, asking a release from all claims to a bequest to the Board, by Mrs. Tyson, of Florida, was laid before the Board. As the estate of Mrs. Tyson was mortgaged at the time the will was made, and releasing the mortgage would cost more than the amount of the bequest, the Secretary of the Board was instructed to sign all papers that were presented, resigning the bequest.

A letter from Miss A. M. Barnes, in regard to the purchase of stars as a premium on subscribers secured for the *Little Worker*, called the Board together October 21. Miss Barnes asked that these figures might be paid for out of the subscriptions, as other papers were paid; but, as the amount of $300 had been allowed by the Board in annual session as office expenses, to cover all outlay of every sort in the conduct of the paper, as well as all travel, etc., in the interest of the paper, the request could not be granted. Miss Barnes also called the attention of the Board to what to her seemed an error made by the Secretary in the Nineteenth Annual Report, which did not give her credit for $1,252.71, raised by the Little Workers' Special. As the $1,252.71 would have been raised through the regular collections from the children, without the expenditure of $300 used, it did not seem right to regard such funds as part of the income of the paper.

A communication from Miss M. L. Gibson, appointed delegate to the Parsonage and Home Mission Convention, stated the impossibility of her attending that meeting, so she was excused. The Convention was deferred until spring, when Miss Gibson sent her report to the Central Committee.

At Miss Perkinson's request and sore need, she was granted leave to use a balance she had in hand from exchange, for the purpose of school supplies.

Miss H. L. Richardson of our China Mission, home on leave, was present at this meeting. She brought greeting from China and was most cordially welcomed.

November 10 was the occasion of much sorrow, the Board being called to take suitable action upon the loss by death of so valuable a member of our Board as Mrs. Morgan Callaway, Secretary of the North Georgia Conference Society. The following preamble and resolutions were entered upon the minutes, and a copy sent to Dr. Morgan Callaway, the bereaved husband:

"Again is the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions called to mourn the loss of a most valuable member. At 11 A.M., November 6, Mrs. Morgan Callaway, so widely and so favorably known as the Corresponding Secretary of the North Georgia Conference Society, fell asleep in Jesus. The event was not unexpected; for several weeks it was feared her sickness was unto death. Medical skill, the ministrations of loved ones, and prayers of friends failed to arrest the disease, which ran its course and opened for her the gates of the eternal city. Almost from the very beginning of the work of the Woman's Board she had been identified with it, and her zeal has so inspired the women of North Georgia that for years theirs has been the "banner" society. Quiet, modest, and unobtrusive, Mrs. Callaway's voice was so seldom heard in discussion in annual session that she was often spoken of as the 'Silent Member.' But when a new work was proposed and endorsed, she was ever ready to pledge herself and her society to do their part in its promotion. 'Her deeds were her words.' Her interest in missions was born of intelligent information concerning the needs of the heathen world, and the obligation of the Church, through its individual members, to supply those needs. She heard the voice of Jesus saying, 'Give ye them to eat;' and most earnestly, lovingly, believingly, did she do her part in obeying this command. The gospel was to her a glorious reality; she had tested it in joy and in sorrow. Knowing it was intended for her, she felt bound by every Christian obligation to do all she could to give the heathen the hope and comfort of this blessed gospel. She was never dismayed by obstacles. She believed in God and that his great promises were 'yea and amen' in Christ. Standing on those promises, she cheerfully accepted the work assigned her, believing that 'the stone would be rolled away,' or, if necessary, a dry path made through the sea, before one promise would fail of fulfilment. Her faith had its reward. Therefore, be it

"*Resolved:* 1. That the Board would hereby express their appreciation of her efficient and valuable services, and, thanking God for her noble example of zeal, humility, patience, faith, and self-denial, would pray that he in whose hands are the hearts of men would call a worthy successor to fill the vacancy caused by her removal.

"2. That the Board extend to the bereaved husband, family, and friends their sincere sympathy in this painful bereavement. May the grace which so wonderfully sustained her in days of suffering, and in the dying hour, be their portion in this time of sorrow. And may they be reunited in heaven, to part no more!

"3. That the action of the Board be published in the *Woman's Missionary Advocate;* also that a copy thereof be sent to the husband and family.

"MRS. W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, *Chairman;*
"MRS. J. D. HAMILTON, *Secretary.*"

On November 19 the Board met to express, if possible, the sense of bereavement consequent upon the death of Mr. T. B. Holt, Treasurer of the General Board of Missions, and Miss Lucinda B. Helm, editor of our *Our Homes*, the organ of the Parsonage and Home Mission Society. These honored servants of God have passed to a sure reward, and their works of faith and love follow.

The death of the Rev. V. V. Harlan, husband of one of the members of the Board, the brother and sister of Mrs. S. S. Park, also a member of our Board, added to the sadness of the meeting, making earthly affairs of little moment, in view of the great issues of eternity. A number of cherished friends have passed away during the year. Among our dear missionaries in foreign lands much sorrow has come: to Mrs. J. P. Campbell, of Korea, whose father passed away soon after her arrival in the mission; Miss Watts, of Brazil, lost a dear brother; Miss Martin, of China, her beloved father; and Dr. Margaret Polk, of our Soochow hospital, was called to part from her only brother, who died in the prime of manhood. These beloved representatives of the Board are held close to our hearts, especially in this season of distress, but they know in whom they believe, and He is able to comfort.

The business transacted at this meeting related to Miss Barnes's inquiry again about the mistake in the Nineteenth Annual Report, which gives a financial statement of the *Little Worker*. There seemed no way of reconciling Miss Barnes's interpretation of the statement and the Secretary's view; but she was again assured that the amount she wanted deducted from the Little Workers' Special would have come into the treasury in the regular way.

Miss Norville's request to advance $350, already appropriated, to meet the exigencies of the Keener School, was granted, as was Miss Toland's request to use a balance she held to purchase a much-needed piano.

Miss Tydings was appointed to superintend the Durango Mission, as Miss McFarren's health needed rest and change.

December 21, Miss Fannie Hinds, a well-endorsed missionary candidate of the Kentucky Conference Society, was accepted and recommended to the Board for appointment at next annual session.

Miss Holder, a graduate of the Louisville Kindergarten, being needed to take charge of the Petropolis Kindergarten in Brazil, at Miss Watts's request, the Board granted her traveling expenses out, the amount to be deducted from the Brazil draft.

A letter from New York, in regard to the Ecumenical Council of Foreign Missions, to be held in that city, in April, 1900, was laid before the Board. The Secretary was instructed to say that our Board would be duly represented.

The invitation to the Secretary to attend the Student Volunteer Convention, held in Cleveland, Ohio, February 23, was also considered, and the Secretary requested to accept.

The *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, whose subscription-list was insufficient to meet expenses, was discussed, and the Secretary's suggestion to urge the Conference Secretaries to double their subscriptions approved.

Mrs. J. P. Campbell's request to use $500 of the appropriation for Korea in purchasing buildings offered for sale at a reduced price by the Baptist Mission was acceded to, and the purchase authorized.

Miss H. C. Carson, missionary to Durango, home on leave, was present at the meeting of the Board on January 4, 1898, and led the devotional exercises.

The matter of Rev. J. J. Methvin continuing to superintend Miss Brewster's work among the Indians of Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory, was referred to the Board in annual session.

On February 1 a plan to increase the income of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* was submitted and recommended.

A letter from Mr. J. H. Lakin, of Alabama, sending $40 to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions for founding the Lakin Children's Fund was a pleasing feature of this meeting. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Lakin. The action of the Board in regard to a surplus accruing in any of our mission fields from exchange or otherwise, was reaffirmed, said surplus being held in the field subject to the Board's appropriation.

Miss Gibson's question, "Will the Board accept a well-equipped missionary, who will graduate from the Scarritt Bible and Training School in May, who is only twenty-three years of age?" was answered: "The Board thinks best to wait the two years, until she is twenty-five."

The testimonials of Miss E. C. Davis, of the North Carolina Conference Society, were presented, and the proposition of the North Carolina Conference Executive Committee to send the candidate to the Scarritt Bible and Training School for the two years' course was approved.

At the next meeting of the Board, March 8, Mlle. Renotte's letter, asking that a missionary be appointed to look after the children of patients in the Maternity Hospital at Sao Paulo, Brazil, was read, and the request not granted, our Board having no work there.

The Treasurer then acquainted the Board with the fact that a legacy of $265 had been left the Board by Mrs. Meriwether, of Hernando, Miss. The good news was gratefully received.

Mrs. McClendon's request that $200 be granted her to pay her expenses at the hospital in Austin, was not granted, as Mrs. McClendon's full salary was paid her during her weeks of absence from work.

The papers of three missionary candidates were laid before the Board, but as each candidate had not complied with resolution under head of "Missionary Candidates," in Nineteenth Annual Report, page 125, a course in the Training-School was deemed advisable.

On April 12 the papers of another very desirable missionary candidate were examined, and were referred to the Board in annual session for final action.

Miss Norville's school work having grown beyond the teaching force at hand, Miss Churchill was transferred from Saltillo to her relief, Miss Roberts' health having sufficiently improved to admit of her return to Saltillo.

On May 6 the Board met at the usual place, and a memorial to the General Conference was agreed upon, and the matter of the *Little Worker* recommended to the careful consideration of the Woman's Board in annual session.

The sad news of the death of Mrs. F. M. Bumpass, which occurred May 8, in Greensboro, N. C., having reached the Secretary, in due time the following action was had by the Board:

"A sweeter, gentler spirit than dear Sister F. M. Bumpass never 'fell on

sleep.' For twenty years she was connected with the Woman's Board of Missions of our Church. To see her at the annual meetings was an inspiration, and the sure fact that daily her prayers for the success of the cause of missions went up to God strengthened many whose fears pointed to failure, though their efforts and hopes were for success.

"Our sainted sister and friend has passed into the unseen and heavenly, where she finds 'faith lost in sight' and 'hope in full fruition.' The fitting, beautiful May-time witnessed her translation, and only thanksgiving for her exaltation fills our hearts. We shall miss her sadly; miss the gentle presence, the loving heart, always a benediction at the gatherings for the Lord's work, but we will one day join her in the kingdom above, where she is forever with her Lord.

"*Resolved*, The cause she loved, and to which she gave her prayers and efforts, shall continue the object of our lives, the highest motive of our loving efforts, until the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom in all lands.

"*Resolved*, Like the incense of sweet spices, her memory will be ever fragrant, her useful life ever like the Rose of Sharon in beauty.

"*Resolved*, The above be spread upon the records of the Board, and a copy sent to her bereaved family.

"Mrs. J. D. Hamilton *Secretary;* Mrs. S. C. Trueheart,
Mrs. H. N. McTyeire,
Mrs. I. G. John,
Mrs. P. A. Sowell,
Mrs. W. E. G. Cunnyngham."

Mrs. Musick moved that this report be considered by items. Adopted.

Three of these items elicited much discussion, with the following action. The item referring to the resignation and marriage of Miss Reynolds was thus amended:

Resolved, That the expenses of Miss Reynolds' return trip to this country be paid by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

Mrs. S. S. Park, Mrs. J. W. Humbert,
Mrs. E. E. Dowdell, Mrs. J. W. Rush.

The item regarding the office expenses of the *Little Worker* brought forth the following resolution, which was adopted:

Inasmuch as on page 92 of Nineteenth Annual Report, under the head of "Expenses of *Little Worker*," there appears an item reading "Expenses of *Little Worker's* Special," which is incorrectly charged to office expense of *Little Worker*, said amount having been used instead in sending out the children's mite-boxes and programs for their special; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Board take the proper steps, and make the necessary correction.

Mrs. Higginbotham, Mrs. Beehler, Mrs. Musick,
Mrs. Dowdell, Mrs. Cheatham, Miss Lida Moore,
Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Harris,
Mrs. Brandon, Mrs. La Prade, Mrs. Duckworth.

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Expenses of Little Worker.

Salary of Editor, June 1	$ 750 00		
Salary of Mail Agent, June 1	100 00		
Expenses of *Little Worker*, June 1	295 64		
Expenses of *Little Worker's* Special, June 1	272 66		
Printing paid	1,539 45	—$2,957	75
Receipts from subscriptions to May 1		1,725	90
Cost over receipts		$1,231	85

CORRECTION.

Salary of Editor, June 1	$ 750 00		
Salary of Mail Agent, June 1	100 00		
Expenses of *Little Worker*, June 1	295 64		
Printing paid June 1	1,539 45	—$2,685	09
Receipts from subscriptions to May 1		1,725	90
Cost over receipts		$ 959	19

The item containing the memorial to the General Conference asking for changes in the constitution of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions elicited the following resolution:

Whereas this memorial bears a peculiar relation toward this body, and whereas we can not table said item,

Resolved, That we disapprove the action of the Local Board in memorializing the General Conference to change the constitution of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions without said changes having been first submitted to this Board, either in annual session, or, if immediate action be thought necessary, to each officer, Manager, and Conference Secretary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions by correspondence.

MRS. SWINDELL,	MRS. HIGGINBOTHAM,	MRS. LA PRADE,
MRS. CHEATHAM,	MISS LIDA MOORE,	MRS. GRAY,
MRS. BRANDON,	MRS. DOWDELL,	MRS. MATTHEWS,
MRS. MUSICK,	MRS. MCINTOSH,	MRS. BENTLEY,
MRS. JONES,	MRS. PARK,	MRS. HARLAN,
MRS. STRANGE,	MRS. BEEHLER,	MRS. HOTCHKISS.
MRS. RUSH,	MRS. HARRIS,	

Mrs. Hargrove moved that the item postponing the appointment to the foreign field of a graduate from the Scarritt Bible and Training School because she did not meet the age requirement in the "Manual of Missionary Candidates," be referred to the Committee on Missionary Candidates. Carried.

After discussion and action upon these items the report of the Local Board was received.

Mr. Odell, of Greensboro, N. C., was introduced to the body and

brought a kind invitation to its members, editors, and missionaries to take a drive over the city at five o'clock that afternoon. Accepted with many thanks.

Mrs. Harris introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Board have published a "Baby Roll Card," similar in design to the one sent out by Mrs. L. F. Harrison, 21 La Grange Street, Worcester, Mass., same to be free; receipts from which cards will go into the General Fund as dues. MRS. HARRIS, MRS. BUFFINGTON,
MRS. HIGGINBOTHAM, MISS LIDA MOORE.

Mrs. McIntosh brought the following memorial from the North Mississippi Conference Society:

Whereas our present method of electing officers after receiving the report of a Committee on Nominations is considered by some of our members as unconstitutional,

Resolved, That our Corresponding Secretary be required to present our present method of election to the next annual meeting of the Board for judgment, requesting that body to interpret the words "All officers shall be elected by ballot" in our constitution.

Referred to Committee on Memorials.

Miss Gibson moved that the Board meet in executive session from 2 to 3:30 P.M. Carried.

By request of the Board the afternoon meetings of committees were deferred, and Dr. Y. J. Allen invited to use the time from 3:30 to 5 P.M. for the completion of his China Jubilee Address, left unfinished Sunday evening on account of the lateness of the hour.

After announcements Mrs. Matthews took charge of the devotional exercises, reading Psalm lxvii. as a Scripture lesson. After prayer Mrs. Matthews spoke most effectively upon "Tarrying at Jerusalem;" the great necessity of the enduement of power for efficient service; conformity to God's will a requirement for its reception; and the amount of the power received dependent upon the fulness of the consecration.

After prayer by Mrs. Dowdell, the meeting adjourned with the benediction.

MORNING SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for its fourth business session Tuesday morning, June 7, at nine o'clock.

The devotional exercises were led by Mrs. Dowdell. She selected the "Testing of Abraham," as shown in Genesis xxii., as her theme, and most touchingly directed the attention of the body to the severity of the test, the great faithfulness of Abraham, and the rich reward gained thereby—to be called the "Friend of God."

Pages for the day, Misses Bessie Bandy and Cora Scarborough. The minutes of Monday's session were read and approved.

Miss Gibson presented the following report of the Scarritt Bible and Training School, which was adopted:

Report of Board of Managers of Scarritt Bible and Training School.

In presenting our sixth annual report to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Managers of the Scarritt Bible and Training School would record our appreciation of the character of the work accomplished and render thanks to God for his watch-care over the interests of this institution.

The sixth annual meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the school on Monday, April 17, 1898, at 2:30 P.M. The meeting was one month earlier than the regular date, as the President of the Board would leave immediately for an extended absence at the General Conference and at other important meetings.

All resident members of the Board of Managers were in attendance, and the presence of Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, added greatly to the interest of the meeting. The report of the Principal was presented, an abstract of which is appended herewith for your consideration.

Sixth Annual Report of Principal.

"Christ honors the draft of a working faith" is the testimony of one who had deep experience in the riches of grace, and although visible results are not the true test of success in work for God, yet it is well to survey a year of service from the vantage-ground of experience and so record in part the claims of faith, the supplies of grace, opportunities for service, and, above all, the attitude of the worker toward the owner of the talents entrusted to our care.

In presenting this, my sixth annual report as Principal, I am happy to be able to report progress. Daily blessing from God has been our portion, daily blessing to man our purpose.

Eleven months have passed since my last report, which was closed May 15, 1897. The fourth annual commencement was held in Calvary Baptist Church on May 18, 1897, at which time fourteen students received the diplomas which you had granted at the annual meeting. Of the nine graduates from the Bible Department, Miss Ella Burkhead has married; Miss Hathorn is Superintendent of a Memorial Rescue Home in New Orleans; Miss Whitman is employed as missionary by First Methodist Church, Macon, Ga.; Miss Mahan has been the Matron of this institution since last June; Miss Streater is city missionary here in Kansas City, employed by the local union of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society—her field is the Mission in Campbell Street Church under the auspices of the local union; Miss Ogilvie is engaged in home mission work in Staunton, Va.; Miss Burton is taking a course in the high school in order to fit herself for greater effectiveness as a foreign missionary; Miss Richardson is

under appointment to China as a missionary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, and will sail in August, in company with her sister, Miss Helen Lee Richardson, who has been for seven years a missionary of our Board in Shanghai. The five graduates from the Nurse-Training Department are engaged in private nursing in this city. I point with pardonable pride to this record, and present these and former graduates as the best endorsement of the worth of the institution.

Vacation brought an exchange of work—active school duties giving place to preparation for the ensuing year. Unexpectedly, our efficient Matron, Mrs. Emily Helm Marriott, was compelled, through family affliction, to resign her position—a necessity which was alike unlooked for and unwelcome. Miss Mahan, a graduate of the class of 1897, who had at Mrs. Marriott's solicitation, consented to act as her substitute during the summer, has remained in the position at the request of the Executive Committee, and has performed the arduous duties as matron most acceptably.

The sixth school session began Thursday, September 9. In response to invitation a number of our city pastors and other friends assembled in the chapel where interesting services were held. Mrs. M. L. Hargrove, our newly elected Bible teacher, gave an uplifting exposition of Isaiah vi., stressing the need of every Christian worker to have a vision of God. Bishop Hendrix and Rev. W. T. McClure made brief addresses, and another year of possibilities had begun. The enrolment of the students for the year has been thirty-seven, twenty-two in the Biblical and fifteen in the Nurse-Training Department. The work of the Bible students has been admirable. The hand of God has been clearly manifest in the choice of the teacher for this important department. Mrs. Hargrove combines rare spiritual power with mental gifts and ability to stimulate her pupils. She is a devoted student of the Word, and teaches by her life and words a reverent apprehension of divine truth.

The classes taught by the Principal are Church History and Methods of Work. In both the progress has been steady and encouraging.

Miss Emma D. Cushman, Superintendent of Nurses, reports the work in her department as follows:

The Report of the Nurse-Training Department.

"We date our report from May 15, 1897, to April 1, 1898. During this time nine probationer's have entered. Six became regular members of the school. One remained four months, and was then discharged as not qualified, one remaining but five days, and one is still on probation. Our class now numbers twelve. Of these, five are seniors and seven juniors. Our graduating class this year numbers six. Two of these have completed the prescribed two years, but will return to graduate. The remaining four will not complete the course until the autumn of this year. Of these now in training, five are Methodists, three Presbyterians, one Congregationalist, one Episcopalian, and one Lutheran.

"Our operating-room has been a source of much gratification to us and to the physicians also, not only for the facilities that it affords for operating, but observation has shown us that the results are much better, as it can now

be kept surgically clean. It was found necessary to detail a special operating nurse since September 1, 1897. The nurses serve a term of two months, each taking full charge of operating-room and sterilizing-room, and of all operations, not only in the preparation but in assisting many of the surgeons when operating. The plan of work in the diet kitchen was also changed and a nurse was detailed specially for that purpose, preparing all extra diets, making soups, desserts, tea, coffee, etc., which had heretofore been prepared in the general kitchen. Like the operating-nurse, she serves a term of two months. The classes have been the same, with the exception of the practical lesson in invalid cooking, which has been omitted, as the nurses receive this training in the diet kitchen.

"The total receipts from the hospital from May 8, 1897, to April 1, 1898, are $8,795.83 from a period of a little more than eleven months, showing a gain of $712.29 over the total receipts of the previous year. This is not due to an increased capacity, as we have the same number of rooms as before, but the demand has been greater for higher-priced rooms, and on several occasions a special nurse has been given, which means fifteen dollars per week extra, aside from the regular price of the room. The calls for rooms has been much greater, and fifty rooms could have been filled as easily as fifteen, showing our great need of a separate hospital.

"The following is the statistical report:

REPORT OF HOSPITAL.

May 15, 1897, to April 1, 1898.

Patients remaining in hospital	20
Males admitted	29
Females admitted	149
Total number admitted	178
Number of births	4
Number of deaths	12
Of these admitted moribund	5
Percentage of deaths omitting moribund	2½
Number of operations performed	148
Of this number there were capital	78
Of those admitted Christians	116
Of those admitted Catholics	4
Of those admitted Hebrew	3
Of those admitted no Church given	3
Number of visits made by physicians	1,248

Nativity.

America	150	Russia	4
Austria	1	Indian	1
Canada	2	Ireland	2
England	7	Scotland	1
France	2	Sweden	1
Germany	6	Wales	1

"EMMA D. CUSHMAN, *Superintendent.*"

The Household Department is, as it has always been, the least popular in the school, and yet the teachers realize more and more that the daily round of common tasks is a revealer of character and an excellent training-ground for the cultivation of conscientiousness, thoroughness, and unselfishness. This hour of domestic employment gives a homelike feeling to the student, and is helpful as a tonic to mind and body.

The Industrial School was held this year in the Campbell Street Mission. One hundred and eighty-five children were enrolled. Lessons in sewing were supplemented by other lessons not set down in books, and the results in the children are encouraging.

The Thursday lectures have been a delightful and profitable feature of the course. The gratitude of the Faculty and students is due the lecturers who have afforded such mental and spiritual profit.

LECTURE COURSE FOR 1897–98.

Medical Work in Hing-hua, China, with incidents of the plague. Julia M. Donahue, M.D., China.

Pioneer Missionary Work in Foochow, China. Rev. J. L. Stuart.

Personal Experience in Pioneer Work in China. Mrs. J. L. Stuart.

The Practical Side of Mission Life. Miss Helen Lee Richardson, China.

The Intellectual Method of Christ's Teaching; Operative Psychology. (Two lectures.) Rev. W. A. Quayle, D.D.

What Great Men Think of Christianity and Its Book; The Bible as an Educator. (Two lectures.) Rev. S. A. Northrop, D.D.

Our English Bible. Rev. J. W. Hancher.

Jerusalem—Ancient and Modern; The Temple of Solomon and Herod. (Two lectures.) Rev. H. D. Jenkins, D.D.

Some Difficulties in Soul-Winning. Rev. C. M. Hawkins, D.D.

The Inner Life and Its Outward Expression. Miss Stella F. Jenkins.

Personal Work in Saving Souls. E. B. Pratt, Secretary Y. M. C. A.

Practical Lessons—How to Bring Men to Christ. Rev. T. E. Shark.

The Call of God to the Missionary. Miss Olive Blount, Japan.

Seven Steps in the Blessed Life. Rev. F. B. Meyer, London, Eng.

The Anglo-Chinese College. Rev. A. P. Parker, Shanghai, China.

Isaiah, the Prophet to the Gentiles; The Hymn-Book of the Holy Spirit —A Study in Psalms. (Two lectures.) Rev. Bishop E. R. Hendrix.

The Wisdom Books of the Bible. (Two lectures.) Rev. C. M. Bishop.

The inner life of the household has been the subject of watchful concern and earnest prayer. The students' weekly prayer-meeting has been well attended by Bible students. I regret to say that the attendance of the nurses is necessarily irregular. A great aid to faith and devotion has been the prayer circle held every evening at 6:45. The attendance, though voluntary, is encouraging, and most gracious answers to prayers have been granted.

The City Mission Department has been under the personal supervision of Miss Elizabeth Streater. For the first time since the opening of the school, this department has been under the direction of one who could give personal attention to the work, and the result has been gratifying, although Miss

Streater's duties as home missionary have left her limited time for training the students in this important branch of work except on regular visiting-day.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF CITY MISSION WORK.

From November, 1897, to April, 1898.

Visits	1,618
Prayers offered in homes	409
Bible read	220
Street conversations	181
Literature distributed:	
Papers	617
Tracts	43
Bibles	3
Testaments	34
Scripture texts	870
Church invitation cards	50
Books loaned	11
Garments bestowed	151
Shoes bestowed	3 pr.
Hats bestowed	2
Bedclothes	2
Baskets of food	76
Baskets of fruit	12
Bouquets of flowers	4
Flowers for funerals	1
Thanksgiving dinners	14
Christmas dinners	16
Half-fare railroad ticket secured	1
Sat up with sick, nights	1
Money given	$12
Cottage prayer-meetings	6
Meetings at Door of Hope	9
Meeting at Crittenton Mission	1
Epworth League meetings conducted	4
Sunday-school reviews	5
Address at missionary meetings	2
Number taught in Sunday-school	2,705
Number taught in sewing-school	1,036

The course of study and the practical work in this department tax students severely both mentally and physically, yet they have endured the strain fairly well. No serious illness has occurred.

Personal bereavement has come to two of the Faculty: Miss Elizabeth Billingsley, who lost a beloved sister in October; and Miss Elizabeth Streater, whose mother was called to heaven without a moment's warning, February 25. The household have entered with loving sympathy into their sorrow, and have upheld them by their prayers.

During Miss Streater's absence Miss Wright, one of our Seniors, acted as

her substitute for a month by request of the Executive Board of the Local Union employing Miss Streater, and filled the place to their satisfaction, showing herself gifted in reaching the hearts of the poor and friendless.

Gifts have come from Mrs. Hoagland, St. Joseph, Mo., Mrs. Royall, Los Angeles, Cal., the J. H. North Furniture and Carpet Company, and from numerous auxiliaries. At Easter the ladies of Troost Avenue Church sent a magnificent collection of lilies and hyacinths. These tokens of interest were very welcome.

The largest gift of the year was a check for $720.03 from Philip E. Burrough, British Consul, representing the Victorian Diamond Jubilee Association. Those present at the last annual meeting will remember the action taken by the Board at that meeting with the intent to secure a share in the proposed endowment of free beds in various hospitals in Kansas City in honor of her Majesty, Queen Victoria. The committee appointed by the Chair, Mrs. J. K. Burnham, Mrs. W. E. Hall, Mrs. J. H. Austin, met the British Vice-Consul and won his interest in our hospital, and a promise from the association of a share in the jubilee fund. The committee enlisted a number of ladies in various churches and societies, and as a result the committee, through its chairman, Mrs. J. K. Burnham, secured $286.82 for the endowment of the free bed, which with the amount received from the British Consul made $1,006.85; $22.50 additional was received afterward. Total to date, $1,029.35. Now that a nucleus has been secured, it is hoped that this benefaction, so greatly needed, will soon be ours, so that we may bless the sick poor therewith.

The memorial window in honor of Miss Elizabeth E. Holding was duly inscribed. The motto selected was "The Entrance of Thy Word Giveth Light," and as the window chosen to bear her name is the first to catch the beams of the morning sun, there is a constant reminder of that light which shineth not on sea or land, but in whose radiance she now dwells.

The Elizabeth E. Holding Reference Library has made a fine beginning. The latest and best books on the Bible have been selected with great care, and the gain to the students can not be computed. I feel sure that contributions to this fund will continue until the case is filled. One hundred and ten dollars and fifty-one cents has been expended thus far, and all subscriptions have not been paid as yet. One hundred and thirty-six dollars and twenty-five cents total receipts to date.

One thousand five hundred catalogues and 10,000 leaflets on the Training-School besides the monthly publication of the *Evangel*, the organ of the school, represents the printed literature sent out in the interest of the school. A heavy correspondence with applicants and inquirers of all kinds have kept me busy.

The school session will close May 17, 1898. The annual sermon will be preached Sunday, May 15, at 11 A.M., in Melrose Church by Rev. Felix R. Hill. The Commencement exercises will be held Tuesday, May 17, at 8 P.M. in Central M. E. Church, South. The Senior Class numbers eleven, and although the final examinations have not yet been completed, the record of the two years' training justifies me in presenting the class to you with the request that you will grant them diplomas after they shall have passed their

examinations. The Seniors are Miss Cornelia B. Craig, Lexington, Mo.; Miss Lalla Belle Shelton, Union City, Tenn.; Miss Mary M. Tarrant, Galveston, Tex.; Miss Elizabeth Trawick, Columbus, Ga.; Miss Mattie Wright, Georgetown, Tex. These will graduate from the Biblical Department. The nurse pupils are six in number: Miss Harriet Byington, Lawrence, Kans.; Miss Emily Cordell, Marshall, Mo.; Miss Anna Graham, Peabody, Kans.; Miss Margaret McNaughton, Kansas City, Kans.; Miss Iva Roberts, Schell City, Mo.; Miss Mary Wood, Glen Wilton, Va. These students as a class have done faithful work and deserve their reward.

During the Student Volunteer Convention at Cleveland, Ohio, in February, at which I represented this school, a conference of representatives of missionary training-schools was held, and a healthful though brief discussion revealed the fact that all had many experiences in common. Nineteen schools were represented, and the interchange of thought was delightful and inspiring.

The record of the year is before you for your approval. The unwritten history that made its days memorable are before Him whose presence has been our guide and whose smile is our reward. I ask your cooperation during the coming year, that our highest ideal may be fully realized.

RECEIPTS FROM MAY 8, 1897, TO APRIL 1, 1898.

Balance brought forward		$ 409 68
Receipts from J. S. Chick, Treasurer, for scholarships	$ 940 00	
Receipts from J. S. Chick, Treasurer, for alterations and repairs for operating-room	617 60	
Receipts from students' board, hospital, and other sources	10,294 27	— 11,851 87
Total		$12,261 55

DISBURSEMENTS.

To expenses of school and hospital	$12,031 16	
Balance in bank April 1, 1898	230 39	— 12,261 55

Respectfully submitted. M. L. GIBSON, *Principal.*

In compliance with the suggestion in the report of the Principal we authorized the executive committee to grant diplomas to the eleven senior students named therein, on completion of the course, after having passed satisfactory examinations.

The committee in charge of the Victorian Diamond Jubilee Fund—viz., Mr. J. K. Burnham, Mrs. W E. Hall, and Mrs. James H. Austin—was requested to serve during the year, as it was most desirable to enlarge the Free Bed Fund. The work of the committee received our commendation and its individual members our thanks.

We also instructed the Secretary to make due recognition of the generosity of the Kansas City Victorian Diamond Jubilee Association through the daily press of Kansas City.

We recommend the reelection of Bishop E. R. Hendrix, Mrs. S. N. Jones, and Mrs. I. J. Hendrix as Managers to serve for the term ending 1901. Anticipating your confirmation, the officers of the Board were reelected.

Mrs. William Wallace has been nominated to serve on the Advisory Board to represent the Southern Presbyterian Church.

We recommend the continuance of Miss Belle H. Bennett and Mrs. M. D. Wightman as agents at large to promote the interests of the school.

The Committee on Easter Program appointed by the chair for this year were Mrs. M. L. Hargrove, Mrs. C. M. Hawkins, Miss Helen Lee Richardson, and Miss Maria Layng Gibson. Ten thousand Easter programs, and 30,000 cards were issued, and many hundred leaflets on the Belle Bennett Chair and Training School were also distributed at Easter. A card from the Program Committee was published in the Church papers, and the response from pastors, Sunday-schools, Epworth Leagues, and churches was gratifying. In some instances pastors sent for supplies for every church on their circuit, and presiding elders made similar requests for their districts.

In view of these facts, we request your Board to direct the use of Easter Sunday to the interests of the Training School another year; for notwithstanding the fact that that day is devoted to other special purposes in some Conferences, yet such manifest cooperation this year induces the belief that the custom should be continued so long as no better plan has been brought forward for completing the chair, lectureships, and scholarships in process of endowment.

With gratitude for the manifest blessing of God on this institution in all its departments, we commend it again to him and to you who have been chosen of God to advance its interests.

In behalf of the Board. MARIA LAYNG GIBSON, *Secretary.*

Miss Gibson read the financial report of the Scarritt Bible and Training School, which was adopted:

FINANCIAL REPORT OF SCARRITT BIBLE AND TRAINING SCHOOL.

Receipts from June 1, 1897, to April 1, 1898.

Alabama Conference	$ 4 00
Arkansas Conference	1 30
Baltimore Conference	5 50
East Texas Conference	19 00
Florida Conference	35 48
Indian Mission Conference	5 00
Kentucky Conference	337 24
Little Rock Conference	7 10
Louisville Conference	76 32
Memphis Conference	214 53
Mississippi Conference	5 25
Missouri Conference	96 92
North Alabama Conference	12 40
North Carolina Conference	180 67
North Georgia Conference	650 88
North Mississippi Conference	430 24
Northwest Texas Conference	47 75
St. Louis Conference	50 80
South Carolina Conference	82 77

South Georgia Conference	$	196	55	
Southwest Missouri Conference		322	11	
Tennessee Conference		57	65	
Texas Conference		1	00	
Virginia Conference		48	50	
West Texas Conference		46	40	
Western Conference		9	05	
Western North Carolina Conference		38	87	
Western Virginia Conference		15	58	
White River Conference		11	09	
Free Bed Box		13	68	
Victorian Diamond Jubilee Fund		1,029	35	
Loan to student refunded		20	00	—$4,072 98

Disbursements.

Belle Bennett Chair	$1,756	29		
H. C. Boring Scholarship, North Georgia		594	65	
Sam Jones Scholarship, Kentucky		156	11	
S. Myra Smith Scholarship, North Mississippi — Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission		273	50	
Victorian Diamond Jubilee Fund		1,029	35	
Kavanaugh Lectureship		73	32	
Room Account		120	23	
Students' Loan Fund		32	85	
Student, Refund on Loan		20	00	
Free Bed Fund		15	68	
Hallie Stafford Cot		1	00	—$4,072 98

Total Received to April 1, 1898, on Incomplete Funds.

Belle Bennett Chair	$14,331	91	
H. C. Boring Scholarship, North Georgia	1,595	12	
Sam Jones Scholarship, Kentucky	2,483	05	
S. Myra Smith Scholarship, North Mississippi, Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission	2,347	80	
The Memorial Scholarship	658	29	
The Texas Scholarship	784	11	
Kavanaugh Lectureship	3,789	41	
The Stephen Noland Lectureship	3,742	10	
Victorian Diamond Jubilee Fund	1,029	30	
Students' Loan Fund	74	85	
Free Bed Fund	60	88	
Hallie Stafford Cot	28	80	

ELIZABETH BILLINGSLY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

The necessity of a free bed in the hospital of the Scarritt Bible and Training School was discussed and fully recognized by the Board.

Mrs. Matthews bore testimony to the worth of the work done by Miss Whitman, a graduate of the Training-School, as city missionary in Macon, Ga.

Report No. 1 from the Committee on Extension of Work was read by Mrs. Trueheart. This report contained appropriations for our work in Brazil, and resolutions looking to its advancement. (See page 127.) This report was considered by items and adopted.

Report No. 2, from the Committee on Extension of Work, on our Indian Mission was adopted after discussion.

Report No. 3, from the same committee, on the communication from the Parent Board, referred for its consideration. Adopted.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PARENT BOARD.

I. SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF MISSIONS.

Your committee to whom has been referred the matter of the dissemination of missionary literature, and a systematic study of missions in connection with the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, begs leave to make the following recommendations:

1. That in this, the jubilee year of our China Mission, the work in China shall constitute the special subject of study for the year, October, 1898–99.

2. That the book on "Mission Work in the Chinese Empire," which is being prepared by Mr. Harlan P. Beach, Educational Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement and which will have a supplementary chapter upon our own work by Bishop Galloway, be adopted as a text-book.

3. That a map of China, with special reference to our own field, be published at the expense of the two Boards.

4. That a Cycle of Prayer be prepared by the two Boards and published for gratuitous circulation.

5. That in recognition of the presence in the United States of Drs. Y. J. Allen and A. P. Parker, and of their ability to represent every phase of the work in China, these brethren be invited to take part in missionary mass-meetings and Conferences when and wherever it may be possible to arrange for the same.

JAMES ATKINS,
GROSS ALEXANDER,
WALTER R. LAMBUTH.

II. INSTRUCTION IN THE BIBLE IN OUR MISSION SCHOOLS.

To the Board of Foreign Missions.

The undersigned representatives of our foreign mission work in China, Japan, Brazil, and Mexico respectfully petition the Board of Missions to adopt the following by-law:

No appropriation of mission funds shall be made to any mission school in foreign fields in which instruction based upon the Bible, or parts thereof, is not regularly given to all the classes as a part of the prescribed curriculum in the school.

Your petitioners furthermore request that in case of favorable action a similar rule be recommended to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

YOUNG J. ALLEN, J. L. BRUCE,
J. C. C. NEWTON, H. C. TUCKER,
DAVID W. CARTER, A. P. PARKER.
M. DICKIE,

REPORT NO. 3 OF COMMITTEE ON EXTENSION.

In considering the communication from the Board of Missions in regard to the dissemination of missionary literature, and a systematic study of missions—

"*Resolved:* 1. That the Woman's Board fully endorses the recommendation of the Board of Missions, and will make our China Mission the special subject of study for this year, which is our jubilee year.

"2. That $50 be appropriated toward the purchase of the book on "Mission Work in the Chinese Empire," prepared by Mr. Harlan P. Beach, Educational Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, with its supplementary chapter by Bishop Galloway, as the text-book for the year's study.

"3. That a sufficient sum be placed in the hands of a Publishing Committee of the Woman's Board to meet a fair proportion of the expense of a map of China to be prepared and published by the Board of Missions in a short time.

"4. That the Secretary of the Woman's Board be instructed to assist the Secretaries of the Board of Missions in the preparation of a Cycle of Prayer to be distributed gratuitously for the use of both Boards.

"5. That the Woman's Board most heartily invites Drs. Y. J. Allen and A. P. Parker to take part in the Missionary Conferences of this Board, and visit, during their stay in this country, as many of our auxiliary societies as their engagements will admit. These brethren are highly honored, and their presence will everywhere be greeted most heartily.

"6. That the petition presented the Board of Missions by Drs. Y. J. Allen, J. C. C. Newton, D. W. Carter, A. P. Parker, M. Dickie, J. L. Bruce, and H. C. Tucker, representatives of the Board of Missions in China, Japan, Brazil, and Mexico, asking that no appropriation of funds shall be made to any mission school in foreign fields, in which instruction based upon the Bible, or parts thereof, is not regularly given in all classes as a part of the prescribed curriculum in the school, is also fully endorsed by this Board. While the Woman's Board has always instructed its representatives to make the truths of the Bible the foundation of all their teaching, as these brethren of the Board of Missions call the matter to the attention of both Boards, it is well to reiterate said instructions.

S. C. TRUEHEART, *Chairman.*

Mrs. Park offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Cycle of Prayer when issued be used as one of the leaflets ordered by the Board, and that the Editor of Leaflets be requested to send it out the quarter next succeeding its publication.

MRS. PARK,
MRS. HUMBERT,
MISS SALLIE SMYLIE.

Mrs. Cheatham and Mrs. Buffington asked leave of absence on account of business of a pressing nature. Granted.

Miss Gibson, charged at the last annual meeting with a fraternal message to the Central Committee of the Parsonage and Home

Mission Society, read her report. Approved. She then read the reply from the Central Committee of that society, which was referred to a committee appointed by the Chair: Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Park.

FRATERNAL MESSAGE TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PARSONAGE AND HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

To the Central Committee of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society.

Dear Fellow Laborers: At the nineteenth annual session of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions the accompanying resolution was passed, and to me was accorded the honor and responsibility of bearing the message to you. As it will not be possible for me to leave school at this time, I must commit to writing the greeting my heart would speak and the charge with which I am commissioned.

My first thought is loving sympathy for you in the double bereavement which has come upon you so recently in the loss of Miss Lucinda B. Helm and Dr. David Morton, who were, under God, the founders of the society which has constituted you its leaders. Seldom in the history of our Church has so great a loss been sustained in one department in so short a time. But God, who has honored his servants by a call to his presence, will supply your need by calling into active service some whom he has been preparing, it may be, in quiet. To God I would commend you, knowing his ability to comfort and cheer.

The commission with which I am intrusted by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions is "to meet and confer with the executive board of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society as to methods of conducting the work of these bodies so as to best conserve the interests of both." The two societies have a divine origin, and to both has been entrusted a weighty charge; each has an important work to do. The relation between the two is peculiar—so close, indeed, that we are more than sisters—for it is not too much to say that two-thirds of your membership are now or have been members of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. With one or two exceptions, your leaders have been drawn from the ranks of the older society, and the same women in our Church are working in both.

Identified so closely as I am with both societies, loving both most earnestly, and appreciating the marvelous opportunities open to both, I come to this Conference with you, praying for the presence of the Holy Spirit with you in great power, and asking his help for myself and for you as we together take a survey of existing conditions and look forward to such an adjustment of our relations as will please our Heavenly Father and promote the good of both societies.

The adult membership of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society is 43,164; of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, 15,355, as shown in the last annual report, making a total of 58,489. But since two-thirds of the women in your society are members of ours also, the actual number of women reached is reduced in that proportion, so that there are not more than 50,000 women of our Church in both societies. It is estima-

ted that in our Church of one million and a half members, 700,000 are women. If this be true, there are 650,000 women not yet reached by either society.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society occupies the position of the pioneer organization among the women and children of our Church, antedating the founding of your society and the Epworth League ten years. Twenty years ago our society unfolded its banner: "An auxiliary in every church, and every woman in the Church a member." A fair ideal, a legitimate ideal, then, as there were none to share the territory with us. But we have failed. Not only that, but it is to be regretted that the field sown by the pioneer workers has been cultivated by the two organizations with little extension into the regions beyond—a vast territory as yet lying wasted with untold riches, both spiritual and financial, still unclaimed for God.

In view of these facts, may we not form a federation that will have for its aim the conservation of our respective forces and the development of the hidden and unused talent among the women of our Church who are as yet oblivious as to the value of their power and obligation to use it in the service of God.

The key-note of both societies is devotion to Christ, who is our Head. Impelled by this love and guided by the Holy Spirit, I offer you a few practical suggestions with a view to securing this federation.

To best conserve the interests of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, it would be wise to recognize our true relationship and to seek to remove all obstacles that hinder the growth of these two coordinate branches of Christian work. To that end I invite you to give your official sanction to the following: We, as workers together with Christ, and seeking to do his will, do hereby pledge ourselves to earnestly endeavor to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." With the carefulness of St. Paul that he might not "build upon another man's foundation" we discourage any invasion of the rights of our sister society—for example:

1. We do not deem it expedient or right to divert a society already organized from its original purpose by changing it from a foreign missionary auxiliary to a home mission society, or from a parsonage and home mission society to a foreign auxiliary.

2. We protest against diverting funds raised by foreign missionary societies to do home mission work, and ask our pastors not to allow or encourage this to be done. The temptation to divert home mission funds to foreign work is rarely encountered, but we would deprecate it as earnestly if it should occur.

3. We deem it wise to avoid another fruitful source of disturbance, and recommend that we cease to draw from each other's strength by electing the same women to serve as officers in the auxiliaries of both societies, but rather seek to broaden our sphere by enlisting the interest of the women not now engaged in the work of the Lord.

4. Taking 1 Corinthians xiii. as our guide, we will endeavor to provoke one another to love and good works, and, raising the standard, "The Women of Our Church for Christ," seek to honor our Lord by winning recruits

from the 650,000 women enrolled on the Church books, but not enrolled in either branch of his work.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions will convene in Greensboro, N. C., June 2, and I shall esteem it a privilege to bear a message from you in answer, that I may complete my work as fraternal messenger, as I feel sure that these suggestions will receive the endorsement of the body whose commission I bear to you.

Rejoicing with you in your growth and work for God, and praying that the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost may be with you now and always, I am yours in Christ, MARIA LAYNG GIBSON.

REPLY TO FRATERNAL MESSAGE.

The following is an extract from the minutes of the twelfth annual meeting of the Central Committee of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society:

The communication of Miss M. L. Gibson, fraternal messenger of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, was read.

Mrs E. E. Wiley offered the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Chair appoint a committee, she being a member of that committee, to consider and reply to the propositions that have come to us from the Board of Foreign Missions."

It was adopted, and the following committee was appointed: Miss Mary Helm, Chairman; Miss Belle H. Bennett, Mrs. R. K. Hargrove, Miss Emily M. Allen.

To the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

Dear Sisters in Christ: Your greeting and message have been delivered by Miss M. L. Gibson to the Central Committee of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, and that body desires, through us, to express its pleasure in receiving such a testimony of love and good will from its sister society.

We heartily echo the sentiment that the origin and conditions of our existence unite us with a peculiarly close tie, and earnestly pray that the God of peace and love may draw that tie still closer as the years go by, forbidding, by the leadings of the Holy Ghost, anything that may disturb the bond of peace and the unity of the Spirit.

We have set for ourselves the same high aim that has been the goal of your purpose since organization: "An auxiliary in every church, and every woman in the Church a member." Seeking to attain to a perfect ideal, neither society could be satisfied with a lower standard, but should, hand in hand and heart to heart, press forward into the "regions beyond," claiming for Christ's service *all* who call themselves by his name.

Called by God, and organized by the General Conference, the two societies stand side by side as coordinate branches in the great work of soul-saving, having equal authority from the Church and equal claim upon its membership. The love of Christ constraineth each one of us to love and labor for womanhood, wherever it rests under the shadow of sin, or groans under the degradation of ignorance and oppression, be it in our own land or in the

lands beyond the sea. The same love for Christ and souls should prevent all conflict in legislation and friction in administration.

We have earnestly considered the propositions that have come to us through your messenger as to the best means of conserving the interests of both societies, and in reply would say:

1. We most heartily endorse the first proposition, uniting in your protest against diverting a society from the purpose for which it was organized to *any* other.

2. We also join most earnestly in your appeal to our pastors and members, that they do not divert the funds of either society to the use of the other, or in any way hinder the just and legal administration of the funds of either society.

3. Believing that the work included under the distinctive headings of Foreign and Home Mission Societies has an equal claim upon the hearts and hands of our women, and that this claim is an individual responsibility resting upon the individual conscience, we do not feel that we have the legal or moral right to so legislate as to interfere in the matter of holding office in the auxiliary societies. Each woman must decide for herself how much work she can do for the Master. Indeed, it seems to us that if the same women are interested officially, and otherwise, in both societies, it will promote good will and hinder friction and ungenerous rivalry.

4. What has been said above relates also to the fourth proposition, as to receiving members belonging to the sister society. We can not forbid our members going into the Foreign Missionary Society, and neither can we refuse to receive into membership those who are already members of the Foreign Society, when God and the Church have called them to both. Is it not a fact that our chief pastors are members of both the Boards of Missions and Church Extension: that the Secretaries of both these Boards are ex officio members each of the other Board; that we expect our pastors to be equally interested in the work of each Board; and shall we not ask and expect the same broad interest and loving service from our women, from our Boards to the smallest auxiliary? "With a glad heart and free," we will unite with you in your proposed plan of winning recruits for Christ's work from the great host of the "unemployed" among the women of the Church, and may the power of God rest upon all who thus labor for him!

5. In order to bring the two societies into closer relation, and to promote intelligent cooperation, we would propose to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions that we follow the example of the brethren of the Boards of Missions and Church Extension, and have the General Secretary of each of our Boards an ex officio member of the other Board, and that, working to that end, we both memorialize General Conference to so amend our constitutions.

May the blessing of God be upon your work, which is also ours, we being members of the same, and crown your labors with such abundant success as will glorify our Father in heaven!

Our prayers will be with you during the annual meeting at Greensboro, that the Holy Spirit may be poured out upon you—a baptism of love and power—and that you may be given wisdom in the administration of the

affairs entrusted to you, and that you may enter upon the coming year with a new inspiration of loving zeal and holy aspirations.

MARY HELM, *Chairman;* MRS. R. K. HARGROVE,
BELLE H. BENNETT, EMILY M. ALLEN.

The time being extended, Mrs. Swindell moved that a committee be appointed by this Board to confer with a like committee to be appointed by the Woman's Board of Home Missions looking toward union of the Foreign and Home Missionary Societies. The motion was tabled.

Mrs. Swindell read Report No. 1 of the Committee on Missionary Candidates. (See report.) Adopted.

Mrs. Humbert presented an invitation from the auxiliary of Greenwood, S. C., to the Board, to hold its next annual session in that city.

The following resolution was presented:

Resolved, That this body request the appointment of Miss Gibson as fraternal delegate to the Woman's Board of Home Missions at its next annual session.

MRS. SOWELL, MRS. DUCKWORTH,
MRS. BENTLEY, MRS. MATTHEWS.
MRS. LA PRADE,

Referred to the Committee on Reply to Fraternal Message.

Mrs. Trueheart read the following communication:

Philadelphia Branch of the Woman's Board of Missions, June 2, 1898.

My Dear Mrs. Trueheart: The joint Conference of the Woman's Boards of United States and Canada will be held in New York City in January, 1899, exact date not yet settled. Will your Board kindly give the Committee of Arrangements suggestions as to topics to be discussed, or any improvements upon former programs. The committee will be glad to have you send the names of one or two speakers who will represent your Board. An early reply is requested.

By order of Secretary of Committee.

EMMA SLOCUM HEATH, *Office Secretary.*

This communication was referred to the Committee on Memorials.

After announcements Mrs. Wilson took charge of the closing devotional exercises. Mrs. Wilson used as her Scripture lesson 1 Peter i. 3–9, bringing to our attention most impressively the richness of meaning contained in the phrases "abundant mercy, "lively hope," "incorruptible inheritance," "kept by the power of God." "trial of your faith," "shall be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus."

After prayer the session adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for its fifth business session Wednesday, June 8, 8:30 A.M.

Mrs. Humbert led the devotional exercises, reading, as her Scripture lesson, the one hundred and third Psalm. After prayer the President called the meeting to order, and business began. Minutes of Tuesday's session was read and approved.

The pages for the day were Misses Mabel Leake and Lillie Taturn.

Mrs. Trueheart, Chairman of Committee on Extension, read Report No. 4 on China and Korea. Approved. (See report.)

Also Report No. 5 on Mexico. Adopted by items. (See report).

Mrs. S. S. Park offered resolution as follows, which was adopted:

Inasmuch as Rev. H. C. Tucker has been very helpful to the Woman's Board in the purchase of property in Brazil, be it

Resolved, That he be requested to make our purchase at Juiz de Fora.

MRS. J. W. HUMBERT,
MRS. S. S. PARK,
MRS. H. N. MCTYEIRE.

The following resolution offered by Mrs. Swindell was adopted:

Resolved, That the $400 that has been asked as appropriation for the Mary Black Memorial be given to the Bright Jewels of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the North Carolina Conference as their special work for this year.

MRS. F. D. SWINDELL,
MRS. J. E. MUSICK.

Mrs. Dowdell offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved: 1. That the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, assembled in Greensboro, N. C., desire to express the appreciation of this Board of the wise and conservative attitude of President McKinley in the declaration and prosecution of the war now in progress between this country and Spain.

2. That we pledge our daily prayer to God that wisdom and patriotism may guide in the councils of the nation; that speedy success may crown our arms, and that the cause of God and humanity may be thereby promoted.

3. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to His Excellency, President McKinley.

Report No. 2 of the Committee on Missionary Candidates was read, amended, and adopted. (See report.)

The Secretary read the following telegram received from Mrs. A. P. Parker.

Telegram received. Many thanks. Slowly improving. Philippians i. 3–5.

MRS. A. P. PARKER.

On motion of Mrs. Hendrix, the Board rose and engaged in prayer for Mrs. Parker's recovery, led by the President.

The report of the Committee on Publication was read by its chairman, Miss Gibson, and adopted after amendment. (See report.)

Dr. Crawford, editor of the *North Carolina Advocate*, was introduced to the body, and kindly presented a number of copies of the last issue of his paper, containing extended notice of the meetings of the Board.

Mrs. Harris introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Since it is highly desirable that the endowment of the Belle Bennett Chair in the Scarritt Bible and Training School be completed without further delay, both as an evidence of interest on the part of this Board in the welfare of the institution, and of appreciation of the valued services of the recipient of the contemplated honor;

Resolved, That at the approaching Easter service Conference Corresponding Secretaries be requested to make strong effort to secure from the members of our Church and friends of the school the total amount needed. As a means to secure this end it is suggested that twenty cents from every adult member of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society would complete the endowment, and this basis of assessment is given as a help to make the effort practicable.

MRS. S. S. HARRIS,
MRS. GEORGE BUFFINGTON.

Miss Gibson moved that the Board meet at 2 P.M. for its final business session. Carried. The session closed with prayer by Mrs. S. N. Jones.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for its final business session Wednesday at 2 P.M. Miss Gibson led the devotional exercises. After singing two verses of "I am thine, O Lord," Ephesians vi. 10–12 and Philippians iv. 1–6 were read as the lessons for consideration. Minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Miss Gibson moved that the Board adjourn to the infant-class room for a short executive session for beginning the business of the afternoon. Carried.

Upon reassembling after executive session, Mrs. Dowdell moved that the following telegrams be sent, and the motion was carried.

To Miss Melissa Baker, former Eastern Manager. Greetings and love. 2 John 3, 3 John 5.

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

To Miss Julia Hayes. Greetings and tender interest. Numbers vi. 24–26.

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

The reports of special committees were called for, and Miss Gibson read the following from the committee appointed on item referring to life-memberships in the Home Secretary's report.

Your committee to whom was delegated the task of making clear the direction of life-membership and mite-box funds, present the following for your consideration:

We recommend that the clear statement of facts published in the Secretary's report be incorporated as a section in the By-Laws of Conference Societies, so that it will read as follows: "Section 11. The sum paid for a life-membership ($20) shall go into the general fund to send out missionaries, to sustain the work already projected, and to extend it. Such money can not be used for Bible women, scholarhips, or any special. Mite-box collections and thank-offerings may be used to make life-members, *provided* they are not reported twice—*i. e.*, as life-members and thank-offerings.

We recommend that the following be inserted as Section 12 in By-Laws of Conference Societies: Mite-box collections and thank-offerings during the Week of Prayer are in all cases to increase the general fund, unless permission be granted by the Board to apply such funds to special work.

Again, Section 13. Pledges taken by Conference Corresponding Secretaries at the annual session of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions must be devoted to the general fund, and can not include Bible women, scholarships, or any other special unless allowed by the Board.

Miss M. L. Gibson,
Mrs. S. S. Harris,
Mrs. F. D. Swindell.

Mrs. Dowdell moved that the resolution regarding the Management of Internal Affairs in the Sixteenth Annual Report, page 82, be inserted as Section 14 in By-Laws of Conference Societies. Carried.

Mrs. Bentley moved that a condensed form of the report of this Special Committee on Life-Memberships, etc., be inserted in the business department of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*. Carried.

Mrs. Harris offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved: 1. That the editor of *Little Worker* be allowed to insert attractive advertisements, as a help in rendering the paper self-supporting.

2. That she be allowed the privilege of using railroad passes or certificates which may be secured by advertisements in the interest of the paper.

Mrs. S. S. Harris,
Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.

Mrs. Harris informed the Secretaries that, by a law of the postal service hitherto unknown or unused by them, literature sent out every quarter can be conveyed through the mails for one-fourth the present rate of postage.

The report of Special Committee on Memorials was read by Mrs. Jones, chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS.

Your Committee on Memorials have considered both papers sent to this Board from the North Georgia Conference Society.

No. 1, which refers to leaflets. We recommend concurrence.

No. 2, which has reference to *Little Worker*. We recommend concurrence.

No. 3. Your committee has also considered the memorial from the North Mississippi Conference Society regarding the constitutionality of a Nominating Committee in the election of Conference officers, and we submit that we find no law against a Nominating Committee, provided the ballot shall be cast according to parliamentary usage.

No. 4. Upon the communication from the Philadelphia Branch of Woman's Board of Missions, first clause, we recommend that our former delegate to that body comply with this request; second clause, we recommend that the name of Miss M. L. Gibson be sent to this committee.

Respectfully submitted.

Mrs. S. N. JONES, *Chairman;*
MRS. S. S. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

Mrs. Gray read a report from the Special Committee on Reply to Fraternal Message from Central Committee of Home Mission Society:

Your committee to whom the reply from the Home Mission Society was referred beg leave to say in behalf of this Board that we appreciate the careful consideration given to the fraternal message sent to their Central Committee by our representative, Miss Gibson; the response that comes to us breathes the spirit of love and unity, and the supreme desire to advance the kingdom of our common Lord and Master. Fully recognizing as we do that wherever sin and ignorance are found in this world *there* is a mission field, we are therefore bound together under the same broad commission, "Go teach all nations," and we are ready to join hands and hearts with all who are striving to meet this obligation. We also desire most sincerely to adopt such methods as will increase the strength and influence of both organizations; but since no constitutional changes can be effected except by the legislation of our highest Church council, which meets every four years, and since this council has just adjourned, we deem it unnecessary to suggest any changes that may be desired, or to anticipate what would be advisable in the years to come. In view of these circumstances, we would again assure our sisters of the Home Mission Society that we are ready to cooperate with them in everything that will insure Christian love and harmony, and feel that we should each unite all our energies to enlist the large number of women who have never engaged in these lines of Christian service.

MRS. E. A. GRAY,
MRS. S. N. JONES,
MRS. S. S. PARK.

No. 2, the resolution proposing to send Miss Gibson to the next annual

meeting of the Woman's Board of Home Missions as fraternal delegate from this Board, was referred to this committee. We respectfully suggest that we do not deem it necessary to appoint such a representative at this time.

Mrs. E. A. Gray,
Mrs. S. N. Jones,
Mrs. S. S. Park.

Adopted by items.

Mrs. H. N. McTyeire read the report of the Committee on Finance. (See report.) Amended and adopted by items.

Mrs. Swindell offered the following resolutions, which were lost:

Resolved: 1. That the officers and managers of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall nominate the standing committees in the open session of the Board.

2. That inasmuch as a committee is a miniature assembly, the first person named shall call the committee together, after which the chairman and secretary shall be elected by members comprising the committee.

Mrs. F. D. Swindell,
Mrs. J. E. Musick.

Mrs. Wightman read her report as delegate to the Conference of Woman's Boards held in New York City in January, 1898. Accepted and ordered printed in Minutes.

Report of Conference of Woman's Missionary Boards.

The second International Conference of Woman's Missionary Boards was held in Madison Avenue Methodist Church, New York City, January 12, 13. Wednesday morning was given to preliminary meetings of secretaries, treasurers, leaders of young people's societies, committees on special work, missionary literature, and the World's Missionary Conference. A report of these discussions was made by each chairman in the session of the second day.

The meeting was adjourned for the afternoon to the commodious mission room in the publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 150 Fifth Avenue, and by invitation a joint session held with the General Mission Boards.

Four ladies had been appointed to prepare papers on the organization, administration, and work of the Woman's Missionary Societies in their respective churches, Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Baptist. These were heard with interest and elicited appreciative remark from a number of gentlemen as to the efficiency and indispensable helpfulness of woman's work to the missionary cause.

These papers were ordered to be printed in the report of the Sixth Conference of Foreign Mission Boards, United States and Canada. Mention was made of other boards in the Reformed Church of America, United Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal (South), the several branches of the Church in Canada, and in the Christian Church.

The acme of commendation was reached by the Canadian delegate, who

said: "Indeed the society (in the United Brethren Church) has become almost a source of embarrassment to us, because of its marked success. It has raised a larger sum of money relatively than the men's department, and we are at a loss sometimes to know how to utilize the large sums which our women raise for carrying on this part of the work."

Dr. Gillespie read a strong, stirring paper on "The Pastor and Foreign Missions." A motion was made to print this for extensive distribution in leaflet form.

Thursday morning the home side of foreign missions was considered. In the free discussions suggestions abounded; secretaries stressed the need of more general information about the fields, more familiar acquaintance by letter with missionaries, and use of books of travel and biography. Treasurers desired legacies to be left to the discretion of the Boards receiving them, favoring their application to building purposes. Disabled or worn-out missionaries should have provision made for them. Some societies took shares in a missionary, from a dollar up, and thought this a good method of utilizing small amounts and of stimulating personal interest in a missionary. All missionaries should be taught bookkeeping and accounts.

A stated membership fee, specials, thank-offerings, offerings of service as well as of money, found warm endorsement. More prayer was urged in our young people's meetings, less form, more study of the work to be done, and reasons for doing it.

Previous to Conference question-blanks had been sent to all Woman's Boards in the United States and Canada, and the following statistics collated:

Members in churches	7,524,924
Members of missionary societies	611,237

One in twelve a member of a missionary society, and about one in three of these an active worker. Boards with periodicals, 26; paying subscribers, 191,565. Eleven are publishing papers for children. Thirty boards issued the past year nine million pages of leaflets and tracts. Of the twenty-six periodicals, six are in debt, ten are subsidized, and fourteen are self-supporting. The *Woman's Missionary Friend* has had an exceptional record, having paid all of its own expenses, has contributed funds for establishing other papers—one for children, one for its German constituency, and in part a paper for the women in India, which is published in five languages with a reading constituency of about twenty-five thousand. In fifteen years the paper has contributed thirty thousand dollars for dissemination of this other literature.

The committee reported the standard higher, but room for advancement. For lack of means to do the work singly, it was suggested that Boards unite to publish suitable books for young people, also pamphlets and leaflets, with happy use of photographs and illustrations. Free literature to be restricted to new and frontier work, and a uniform discount allowed on all publications to sister societies.

"The Board that is to have the largest future is the Board that will give the largest literary opportunity," said the chairman, who is also the editor of the *Woman's Missionary Friend.*

Many and earnest responses met the query: "How to circulate the literature?" Canvass congregations; keep literature committees for this and for distribution; print leaflet lists on magazine covers; advertise price-lists in Church papers; have returned missionaries to emphasize the help the literature affords them in reporting their work to the home Church.

Dr. Scudder was won by a leaflet. He and his family together had given about six hundred years of life and labor to missions.

Of books "Far Formosa," "Gist of Japan," "Christian Missions," and "Social Progress," with many others, were commended, but as indispensable and for continuous study "Modern Missions in the East." At conventions see to it that the literature table is made attractive.

"What is our greatest need in this department?" elicited many suggestions: Concise information, not preaching; brief articles, more definite letters, with up-to-date facts, illustrations, hopeful articles to encourage workers at home and abroad, monthly studies, circulating libraries, missionary reading-clubs to include all women in the Church.

The only paper of the morning session was, "How to Secure and Train Foreign Missionary Workers." Highest possible training, spiritual, intellectual, and industrial, was accentuated. As to the last, it was remarked that as the needle had first opened zenanas, so it might attract some shy little one to an industrial mission school.

The Committee on World's Missionary Conference, to be held in New York April 20-30, 1900, made report, and every provision will be made to insure the best use of the whole day which is to be allotted to woman's work at that Ecumenical Conference.

In the afternoon session, the delegate from Nova Scotia not being present, her paper was read, "How can we aid missionaries to greater efficiency in their work?" Among the good points made was this: that Christian England must still be charged with the crime of maintaining the strongest barrier to the evangelization of India and China, in the terrible opium traffic, the curse of Asia.

An exceptionally fine paper was read by Mrs. Joseph Cook, "Do Protestant Missions Encourage Good Citizenship?" The affirmative was most happily proved, and emphasis added, in the fact that the speaker had enjoyed large advantage from world-wide personal observation.

The last question hour was ably led and touchingly concluded with the gentle, but clear words:

> Lord God of hosts be with us yet—
> Lest we forget—lest we forget.

An invitation from the Woman's Board of the Congregational Church, New York City, to entertain the Conference next year, was cordially accepted, and a committee from five denominations was appointed to prepare a program and conduct necessary correspondence.

Two notable women, conspicuous for long and able service, devoted friends as well as comrades, lent a beautiful interest to the two days' services. Mrs. Skidmore, of New York, had presided in the morning; Mrs. Keen, of Philadelphia, came forward to close the session with devotions. That prayer was indeed a benediction, and every heart responded to the

comprehensive petitions. May it continue to go up to our God as a memorial to our Father, who never, never forgets.

The selection of the place of the next annual meeting was the next order of business. Austin, Tex., Macon, Ga., and Greenwood, S. C., were placed in nomination, and each had earnest advocates. Austin, Tex., received the largest number of votes, and was made the unanimous choice of the body.

Pledges were called for, and the following amounts promised: Alabama, $300; Arkansas, $500; Baltimore, $300; Florida, $200; Holston, $1,000; Indian Mission, $100; Kentucky, $1,000; Louisiana, $200; Louisville, $800; Memphis, $500; Mississippi, $250; Missouri, $1,000; North Alabama, $500; North Carolina, $1,000; North Georgia, $3,000; North Mississippi, $550; North Texas, $300; West Texas, $50; South Carolina, $1,500; South Georgia, $2,300; Southwest Missouri, $2,000; St. Louis, $300; Tennessee, $1,000; Texas, $500; Virginia, $750; Western North Carolina, $750; Western Virginia, $400; White River, $300. Total, $21,350.

Mrs. Trueheart moved that the support of the Korea Mission be still accorded to the juvenile societies as their special. Carried.

Mrs. Bentley presented the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That, in order to increase the revenue of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, suitable advertisements be solicited and inserted.

MRS. J. E. BENTLEY, MRS. P. A. SOWELL,
MRS. W. H. LA PRADE, MRS. G. W. MATTHEWS,
MRS. W. L. DUCKWORTH, MRS. E. A. GRAY.

This being the year for the election of officers, Mrs. A. W. Wilson was called to the chair, and ballots were cast, resulting as follows: President, Mrs. M. D. Wightman; First Vice-President, Miss M. L. Gibson; Second Vice-President, Mrs. A. W. Wilson; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. C. Trueheart; Recording Secretary, Mrs. T. B. Hargrove; Treasurer, Mrs. H. N. McTyeire; Managers, Mrs. W. G. E. Cunnyngham, Mrs. J. D. Hamilton, Mrs. I. G. John, Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham, Mrs. Adam Hendrix, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell; Editor of *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, Mrs. F. A. Butler; Editor of *Little Worker*, Miss A. M. Barnes; Editor of Leaflets, Mrs. A. W. Wilson. The Publishing Committee, consisting of Mrs. W. G. E. Cunnyngham, Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Mrs. I. G. John, and Mrs. P. A. Sowell, was reappointed.

The following report of the Committee on Resolutions was read by the chairman, Mrs. Matthews, and adopted:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

To this committee is delegated the expression of the heart of the Board.

Coming into Greensboro as strangers, the warmth of Christian fellowship welds our souls into one; we have sat together in "the heavenlies," and we go forth stronger to do and to dare for our Master. Paul of old paused to greet Priscilla and Aquila, and Thyphena and Tryphosa, the household of Stephanas, and all those who labored with him in the gospel; in like manner we pause to say good-by.

Resolved: 1. That to the hosts and hostesses of Greensboro, and to the Reception Committee, we express our appreciation of their many kindnesses.

2. That to the churches providing noonday lunches we are indebted, both for their care of our physical well-being and for the social Christian intercourse of that hour.

3. That the choir, the flower committee, the pages, the faithful sexton, have our hearty thanks for their ministries to soul and body.

4. That to Mr. J. A. Odell we are indebted for the delightful drive through Greensboro, the visit to the Greensboro Female College and to the grave of Mrs. F. M. Bumpass, the recollection of which will ever be held sacred.

5. That we thank our visitors, Bishop Galloway, Rev. H. C. Tucker, Dr. Y. J. Allen, and Dr. W. B. Palmore, for their presence and stimulating talks.

6. That we thank our sisters, Helen Richardson and Amelia Elerding, for their accounts of the practical results in their fields of labor, and to both we pledge anew our prayers.

7. That to the Publishing House at Nashville for providing offices for our Secretary and Editor of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate;* to Dr. Swindell for the service rendered our Board at the General Conference; to the *Daily Record* at Greensboro; to the railroad authorities; to Mr. Graham, their courteous agent at Greensboro, for kindly cooperation in our work—the thanks of this Board are extended.

8. That for the West Market Street Methodist Church, so beautifully equipped for every department of Church work, the prayers of this Board ascend, that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with them all.

Mrs. G. W. Matthews,
Mrs. W. H. Beehler,
Mrs. I. G. John.

After a short prayer and the benediction by Dr. J. A. Cunninggim, the twentieth annual session of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions stood adjourned.

Mrs. M. D. Wightman, *President;*
Mrs. T. B. Hargrove, *Secretary.*

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

EXTENSION.

1. That Miss Elerding, home on leave, being well and ready to return to Brazil, take charge of the evangelistic work in Sao Paulo, thus opening up the work of the Woman's Board in a new place.

2. That Miss Stradley, now at Petropolis, take charge of the school in Piracicaba during Miss Moore's absence at home, thus relieving Miss Smith of the duty while prosecuting the study of the language.

3. That Miss Glenn be granted leave to open up as many day-schools in Rio, Brazil, as she can secure consistent Protestant teachers for, and can conveniently superintend, and that those persons at home desiring special work in Brazil secure such day-schools by the payment of $300, United States currency, necessary in the support of each.

4. That $15,000 be allowed as a limit for the purchase of property in Juiz de Fora for our school there, and $5,000, now appropriated, be paid down as soon as a suitable building can be secured, the remaining five or ten thousand dollars, necessary to complete the purchase be paid in annual instalments of two thousand dollars each. That a lien upon the property secure the parties from whom the purchase is made, if it is understood that the interest charged is reasonable and the Woman's Board has the privilege of completing the purchase at any time convenient, thus lessening the interest.

5. That the three Conference Societies in the State of Missouri be authorized, if they are willing, to assume the payment of the purchase money necessary, after the $5,000 now appropriated has been paid over, and have the privilege of naming the college. The missionaries now in charge of the school at Juiz de Fora are daughters of Missouri, and, as their work is approved by all who know of it, Missouri may enjoy giving evidence of her high appreciation of these ladies in a substantial way.

6. That money appropriated by the Board for foreign teachers' salaries shall be on the basis of United States money, as are the salaries of missionaries.

7. That all amounts accruing by exchange, for rents, incidentals, etc., be kept in the treasury in the field until the close of the fiscal year, unless some emergency demands its use, when, after consulting the Board, it may be so applied.

8. That our agents in the several fields invite the missionaries of the General Board to be present with the missionaries of the Woman's Board at their annual meetings.

9. That in making up estimates our missionaries state clearly the objects and the amounts necessary for meeting the same, and use only so much of the funds thus appropriated for each object as may be necessary when the amounts for the same are in hand, holding the balance until instructions can

be had from the Board. It is not advisable to use funds appropriated for one object for another, without consulting the Woman's Board.

10. That in auditing financial reports in the field the agent shall be a part of the Auditing Committee, and the financial statements presented by the missionaries to this committee do not embrace their own salaries, except such part as is paid over for board.

11. That quarterly reports, after examinations of the first year's study of a new missionary, be forwarded to the Secretary of the Woman's Board.

12. That our missionaries do not adopt natives as their protégés, as evils may arise from such measures.

13. That as some have asked, "What are the duties of agents of our missionaries?" they will find the same defined in Article II. Under "Instructions to Missionaries" in the Annual Reports of the Woman's Board, Articles II. and III. show that agents are appointed to facilitate business with the Board, and not in any way to cut off individual missionaries from direct communication with the Board through the Secretary.

14. That attention be again called to Article III., page 142, of "Instructions to Missionaries," Nineteenth Annual Report.

15. That all special action by the Board in annual session, regarding instruction to missionaries and missionary candidates, be placed under the respective directions to such, and appear from year to year in the Annual Reports of the Woman's Board. The former under the head of "Instructions to Missionaries, the latter under "Requirements of Missionary Candidates."

16. That all teachers employed as assistants in our schools, by the missionary in charge, shall work in harmony with the missionaries, and be subject to the advice of the Principal, and in no case seek to change the methods adopted, or the management of the mission, without the approval of the missionary in charge, the agent of the field, and the Woman's Board.

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES.

Your Committee on Missionary Candidates submit the following report: The application and papers of Miss Mary T. Pescud, of the North Carolina Conference, referred to us by the Local Board, are perfectly satisfactory, and we recommend her to be accepted as a missionary to the foreign field, and to be appointed to work in Juiz de Fora, Brazil.

Also that Miss Hinds, whose papers have been approved and accepted by the Local Board, be appointed to work in Korea.

Miss Mary M. Tarrant, of Galveston, Tex., who has just finished the course at the Scarritt Bible and Training School, is recommended to the Local Board for work in the foreign field when her papers are duly presented.

In view of the high testimonials from our missionaries, and from Dr. Y. J. Allen, in regard to the fitness of Miss Ida Anderson for work in China, and inasmuch as she is a resident of that country and has a knowledge of the language which would render her services immediately available;

Resolved: 1. That we recommend her to the Local Board for acceptance as a missionary in China, if her papers shall be satisfactory to them.

2. That Miss Haygood be empowered to engage Miss Anderson as an assistant, at a salary of $500, until her papers are brought before the Local Board.

MRS. F. D. SWINDELL, *Chairman;*
MRS. W. H. LA PRADE, *Secretary.*

FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance recommend the following:

1. That $250 be allowed the President in prosecuting the work of the Board.

2. That the Corresponding Secretary be paid a salary of $1,200 per annum, and that $250 be allowed for office expenses.

3. That $600 be appropriated for clerical help for Corresponding Secretary.

4. That $400 be appropriated for Treasurer's office.

5. That $850 be appropriated for publications ordered by the Board, and expenses of mailing same, and $150 contingent.

6. That $500, with $50 contingent, be appropriated for publishing and mailing leaflets.

7. That $700 be allowed the Publishing Committee in issuing the following: "Sketches of Missionaries," "Memoirs of Mrs. D. H. McGavock," "Mrs Juliana Hayes," "Miss Dora Rankin," and a book on China.

8. That $125 be appropriated for mite-boxes.

9. That $125 be allowed for mailing mite-boxes and certificates of life-membership.

10. That the Editor of *Woman's Missionary Advocate* be paid a salary of $100 per month, from the receipts of the paper.

11. That the assistant to the Agent of *Woman's Missionary Advocate* be paid $500 from the receipts of the paper.

12. That the Editor of *Little Worker* be paid $750, from the receipts of the paper, if possible; if not, to be paid out of the Contingent Fund; and that $150 be allowed her for office expenses.

13. That the Agent of *Little Worker* be paid $150 from the Contingent Fund.

14. That the Editor of Leaflets be paid $150 and $50 allowed her for office expenses.

MRS. H. N. MCTYEIRE, *Chairman;*
MRS. C. W. BRANDON, *Secretary.*

PUBLICATION.

The Committee on Publication begs leave to present the following report:

Having carefully considered the items in the Secretary's report referred to our committee, we recommend the following:

Whereas we have heard with pleasure that the work intrusted to Mrs. I. G. John, of preparing life sketches of missionaries employed by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, has been completed;

1. We recommend that the Publishing Committee issue these sketches in pamphlet form, to be sold at fifteen cents each.

2. We recommend, also, that the Publishing Committee publish the "Life of Mrs. D. H. McGavock," and "Mrs. Juliana Hayes," and the "Life of Miss Dora Rankin," materials for which biographical sketches have been compiled; and request that Mrs. F. A. Butler prepare the "Life of Mrs. McGavock" and "Mrs. Hayes"—the price of said booklets being fixed at twenty-five cents.

3. In view of the action of this Board in adopting the report of the committee acting conjointly with the Secretaries of the General Board of Missions in regard to the wider circulation of missionary literature, we recommend that Conference Corresponding Secretaries use their utmost endeavor to place these aids to missionary intelligence in the hands of their workers.

4. We recommend that eight thousand copies of the Twentieth Annual Report, including the minutes, be issued for distribution.

5. We recommend that thirteen thousand Summarized Reports be published.

6. We recommend the following supplies:

(*a*) "How to Organize Adult Societies," 2,000.

(*b*) "How to Organize Young People's and Juvenile Societies," 1,150.

(*c*) Blanks to report Adult Organizations, 2,000.

(*d*) Blanks to report Young People's and Juvenile Societies, 2,000.

(*e*) "Duties of Officers and Members," 5,000.

(*f*) Constitution of Adult Auxiliaries," 3,000.

(*g*) Constitution of Young People's and Juvenile Auxiliaries, 2,500.

7. We recommend that ten thousand mite-boxes be issued.

8. Having the firm conviction that a greatly increased distribution of literature in an attractive form will result in a correspondingly increased interest in our juvenile work, and believing that the best way to secure this end is to yield to the demand for a good paper at a low price, we recommend, (1) That the subscription price of the *Little Worker* be reduced to ten cents. (2) To provide against loss from reduction in price, that the juvenile leaflets be discontinued, and the amount usually appropriated for same be transferred to the account of the paper. (3) As this reduction in price will make it necessary to increase the circulation to twenty-five thousand immediately, we recommend that Conference Corresponding Secretaries pledge themselves for that number, the assessment to be proportioned to their memberships.

9. As a committee, we desire to express our appreciation of the valuable service rendered our Board by the Editor of Leaflets, yet, deeming it our duty to urge retrenchment wherever it will not jeopardize the interests of our work, we think that the time has come when the same program and leaflet may be used with advantage by both the Adult and the Young People's Societies; therefore we recommend that Adult Auxiliary Leaflets—23,000 of each variety—be published for the use of Adult and Young People's Auxiliaries.

10. We recommend that Conference Societies each year elect an editor, whose duty it shall be to edit a column in their Conference organ, in the interest of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

11. We recommend that each auxiliary appoint one of its members as editor, whose duty it shall be to secure insertion in the secular paper nearest them, of items from the home and foreign mission fields.

12. The resolution referred to our committee in regard to the adoption of a "Baby Roll Card" has received our consideration, and we recommend concurrence, inasmuch as this card has already been in use in many of our societies for years, and has proved successful as a financial measure.

13. We recommend that the Agent and Editor of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and of the Editor of *Little Worker* be elected by ballot.

14. We recommend that an assistant to the Agent of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and the *Little Worker* be elected, and that she send out any leaflets ordered from the Publishing House.

15. We indorse the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and the *Little Worker*, and recommend that the Board exert itself strenuously to increase their circulation, and to disseminate by all means missionary information.

Miss M. L. Gibson, *Chairman;* Mrs. S. S. Harris,
Mrs. S. N. Jones, Mrs. W. L. Duckworth,
Mrs. P. A. Sowell, Miss Lida G. Moore,
Mrs. G. W. Matthews, Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1898-99.

China Mission.

Shanghai District.

Miss Haygood's salary	$ 750	
Miss Hughes's salary	750	
Miss Richardson's salary and return	1,050	
Miss Steger's salary	750	
Miss Bomar's salary	750	
Miss Gary's salary	750	
Miss Sanders' salary	750	
Miss Waters' salary	750	
Miss Rankin's salary	750	
Miss Coffey's salary	750	
Miss Mary Richardson's travel and salary	1,000	
Clopton School	700	
Day-schools	1,050	
McTyeire Home and School	200	
McGavock Memorial	5,000	
Woman's work	200	
Shanghai, repairs and incidentals	250	
Shanghai, taxes	150	
Treasurer and Agent's office and itineration	50	
Nantziang and Käding, schools	1,000	
Nantziang and Käding, woman's work	100	
Nantziang and Käding, taxes and repairs	50	
Printing	200	
Contingent for Shanghai District	250	
Sending out one missionary	900	

Sung-Kiang.

School work	400	
Woman's work	200	
Miss Leveritt's salary	750	—$20,250

Soochow District.

Miss Atkinson's salary	$ 750	
Miss Pyle's salary	750	
Mrs. Gaither's salary	750	

Dr. M. Polk's salary	$ 750	
Miss Martin's salary	750	
Hospital	800	
Mary Black Memorial	400	
Boarding-school	800	
Day-schools	900	
Miss Williams' salary	500	
Taxes and repairs	100	
Contingent for district	250	
Davidson Bible-school	400	$ 7,900

Korea.

School work	$ 350	
Incidentals	500	
Mrs. Campbell's salary	750	
Sending out new missionary and salary	1,000	2,600

MEXICAN BORDER MISSION CONFERENCE.

Laredo and Saltillo.

Miss A. E. Holding's salary	$ 750	
Miss Delia Holding's salary	750	
Miss Park's salary	750	
Mrs. McClendon's salary	750	
Miss L. Roberts' salary	750	
Miss E. Case' salary	750	
Teachers' salaries at seminary	4,600	
Matron's salary at seminary	300	
Native teachers' salaries	300	
Current expenses	3,000	
Expense for Agent and travel	250	
Miss Wright's salary	500	
Insurance	366	
Nuevo Laredo	250	
Woman's work	150	
Rent for school (West End)	25	
West End School's native teachers' salaries	150	
Laredo day-school and rent	400	
Native teachers' salaries	400	
Books	50	
Saltillo: Teachers' salaries	1,400	
Native teacher	150	
Charity school	150	
Woman's work	150	
Taxes and repairs	200	
Current expenses	200	17,491

NORTHWEST MEXICAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

Chihuahua and Durango.

Miss Lizzie Wilson's salary	$ 750	
Miss Harper's salary	750	
Durango: Miss McFarren's salary	750	
Miss Tydings' salary	750	
Miss H. Carson's salary	750	
Chihuahua: Teachers' salaries	1,200	
Native teacher's salary	150	
Current expenses	500	
Charity school	150	
Woman's work	150	
Taxes, repairs, etc	200	

Durango.

Charity school	150	
Woman's work	150	
Teachers' salaries	1,000	
Taxes, repairs, etc	250	
Native teacher's salary	150	
Current expenses	250	$ 8,050

CENTRAL MEXICO MISSION CONFERENCE.

San Luis Potosi and Guadalajara.

San Luis: Miss Toland's salary	$ 750	
Miss Blackburn's salary	750	
Guadalajara: Miss A. V. Wilson's salary	750	
Miss Mattie Dorsey's salary	750	
San Luis: Teachers' salaries	2,000	
Native teacher's salary	150	
Charity school	150	
Woman's work	150	
Taxes and repairs	200	
Guadalajara: Current expenses	500	
Teachers' salaries	600	
Native teacher's salary	150	
Woman's work	200	
Charity school	100	
Taxes and repairs	250	— 7,450

EXTENSION OF WORK.

City of Mexico.

Rent	$ 900	
Fitting and furnishing	100	

Salary of Mexican teacher	$ 150	
Salary of Miss Norville	750	
Salary of Miss Churchill	750	
Contingent	600	$ 3,250

BRAZIL.

Petropolis.

Miss Watts' salary	$ 750	
Miss Stradley's salary	750	
Miss Umberger's salary	750	
Teacher's salary	500	
Itineration of agent	250	
Expense in moving missionaries	150	
Incidentals	200	
Rent of house for kindergarten	500	

Piracicaba.

Miss Alice Moore's salary	375	
Miss Smith's salary	750	
Taxes and repairs	200	
Teacher's salary	500	

Juiz de Fora.

Miss Perkinson's salary	750	
House rent (contingent)	1,300	
Teacher's salary	500	
Miss Shaffer's salary	750	
Incidentals	200	
Building home and school	5,000	
Sending out one new missionary, outfit, and salary	900	

Rio de Janeiro.

Miss Elerding's salary and return	950	
Miss Bowman's salary	750	
Miss Glenn's salary	750	
Woman's work	300	
House rent for day-school	1,500	
Incidentals	200	
Teacher's salary	500	— 20,025

INDIAN MISSION.

Anadarko and Fort Sill.

Teachers' salaries	$ 900	
Matron	300	
Assistant matron and seamstress	150	
Laundry and cook	400	

provided that the collections of this society shall not be used for said school except such as may be specially given for that purpose.

ART. VIII. The funds of this Board shall be derived from private efforts; from membership, life and honorary membership fees; from devises and bequests, and from public collections only at meetings appointed in behalf of the society.

ART. IX. The President shall preside at all meetings, and countersign all orders on the treasury. In her absence a Vice-President shall preside, and in the absence of the Vice-Presidents a chairman shall be appointed *pro tem.*

ART. X. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence and attend to the legal business of the Board, prepare the annual report, publish quarterly statements of the condition of the work, both at home and in the foreign field, and give all orders on the Treasurer. The Corresponding Secretary shall reside where the Board of Missions is located.

ART. XI. The Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by her as Treasurer, subject to authenticated drafts. She shall furnish annual and quarterly reports, to be published with those of the Corresponding Secretary, and her accounts shall be audited by the Treasurer of the Board of Missions. The Treasurer shall reside where the Board of Missions is located.

ART. XII. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings in a permanent record, and obtain the signature of the President as approved.

ART. XIII. An auditor shall be elected to audit the accounts of the society.

ART. XIV. When vacancies occur in the interval of the annual meetings, the Board shall fill said vacancies until the next annual meeting.

ART. XV. Three of the six managers shall be members of any one of the auxiliary societies at the place where the Board of Missions is located, and the remaining three shall represent severally the eastern, the southern, and western sections of the Church.

ART. XVI. Every school or hospital established by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall send reports (such as are made to the Woman's Board) to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds such school or hospital may be situated. The auxiliaries may send reports to the Quarterly Conferences of the charges with which they are associated.

BY-LAWS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1. The President and Corresponding Secretary of the Conference Society in whose precincts the annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions is to be held, after consulting with the executive officers of said Board, shall fix the date of meeting and arrange for anniversary exercises. If for any cause it should become necessary, in the interim of the annual meetings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, to change the place selected to hold the next annual meeting, it can be done by consent of the executive officers and managers of the Board.

2. The traveling expenses of officers and managers and returned missionaries to and from the meetings of the Board shall be paid from the treasury.

3. The opening exercises of each annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall be held the evening before the regular business meeting commences.

4. The officers and managers of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall nominate the standing committees.

5. Whenever the interest of the work demands it, the Corresponding Secretary shall call a meeting of the Board to provide for emergencies that may arise during the intervals of the annual meetings. A secretary shall be elected, and in the absence of the President and Vice-President the members shall appoint a chairman at each meeting.

6. No new work shall be projected and no money outside of the contingent fund shall be appropriated at these meetings.

7. The Corresponding Secretary shall present to the called meetings of the Board all applications received by her from missionary candidates.

8. The minutes of these sessions shall be presented by the Corresponding Secretary to the Board in annual session.

9. The Editors of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and *Little Worker* and the Treasurer of the Memorial Fund shall be elected quadrennially.

10. The by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote.

Rules of Order.

(*a*) Each session shall open and close with devotional exercises.

(*b*) All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

(*c*) Ladies shall rise when they address the Chair.

(*d*) No member shall leave the room without the permission of the Chair.

Order of Business

For Opening Business Sessions of Annual Meetings of Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

1. Roll-call.
2. Reading minutes of opening session.
3. Report of Local Board.
4. Announcement of standing committees.
5. Presentation of plans and estimates for foreign work, and papers to be referred to committee.
6. Miscellaneous business.

Order of Business

For Regular Daily Sessions.

1. Roll-call.
2. Reading of minutes.
3. Reports from standing committees.
4. Reports from special committees.
5. Miscellaneous business.

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

Any number of women may form an auxiliary to the Conference Society in any charge or circuit, by appointing a President, two or more Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer; these constituting a Local Executive Committee. Auxiliary Societies shall report to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board until Conference Societies may be formed in the Annual Conference where they are located.

How to Organize Auxiliary Societies.

Whenever any number of ladies can be convened for the purpose, let the work be brought before them by the pastor or some lady, urging the claims of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society; then organize by appointing a chairman and secretary *pro tem.*

Let one or more ladies pass around with slips of paper to secure members. The chairman shall then call for a nominating committee, preliminary to the election of officers. When the report of the nominating committee is adopted the officers are elected.

The constitution and by-laws provided for auxiliaries should then be read and adopted. The time for holding the monthly meetings may be determined, and subscribers obtained for the *Woman's Missionary Advocate.*

As soon as organized the Corresponding Secretary of the auxiliary shall fill a blank report of organization, and forward to the Conference Corresponding Secretary.

Constitution and By-Laws.

Printed for Information and Use in the Organization of Auxiliaries.

Article 1. This society shall be called the "Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of ——, auxiliary to the —— Conference Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

Art. 2. The object of this society shall be to aid Christian women and children in the evangelization of women and children in our mission fields, and to raise the funds for this work.

Art. 3. Any person paying a regular subscription of ten cents a month may become a member of this society; and any person contributing $5 per quarter for one year, or $20 at one time, may be a life-member.

Art. 4. Meetings of the society for business and communication of intelligence shall be held once a month. The anniversary of each society shall, if practicable, be held in March, at which time the reports of the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers shall be read, and officers of the ensuing year be elected by ballot. The delegate and the reserve to the annual meeting of the Conference Society shall be elected by ballot at the same time.

By-Laws.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the society, and to advance its general interests.

2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, and to aid in devising means for the efficiency of the society.

3. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the

correspondence of the society. It shall also be her duty to send quarterly reports not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March, to the Conference Corresponding Secretary, or the District Secretary, as the Conference Secretary may direct. She (or the appointed agent) shall bring up the claims of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* at every monthly meeting, and try to obtain subscribers.

4. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, and to provide the pastor with written notices of the meetings.

5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect the dues of members and to hold in trust the funds of the society, keeping a book account, and remitting to the Conference Treasurer not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March; also at the same time to furnish the auxiliary Corresponding Secretary a statement of amount remitted. Collectors may be appointed to assist the Treasurer.

6. There shall be a committee of three to provide missionary reading for monthly and quarterly meetings.

7. Once each quarter, if practicable, a public meeting shall be held, when reports of the work shall be read, addresses given, and every effort made to increase general missionary intelligence and zeal, as well as earnestness in the special work of the society.

8. Each member of the society shall try to induce others to become members, and do what she can to add to the interest, remembering in prayer her society, its workers, its missionaries, schools, etc., connected with the general work.

9. If an office becomes vacant by death, resignation, or removal, such vacancy must be filled as soon as possible.

10. Order of exercises for monthly meetings: (1) Devotional exercises; (2) reading and approval of minutes; (3) report of Corresponding Secretary; (4) report of Treasurer; (5) report of Literary Committee; (6) miscellaneous business; (7) report of what each member has done for the society during the month; (8) adjournment.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S AND JUVENILE SOCIETIES.

Constitution.

Article 1. This society shall be called ———.

Art. 2. Its objects shall be to aid the operations of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; to increase contributions; to cultivate piety and systematic giving; and to increase missionary intelligence.

Art. 3. Its officers shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Art. 4. The society shall be under the superintendence of a Lady Manager, who shall be elected by the adult auxiliary where the two societies exist; otherwise by the juvenile society. It shall be the duty of the Lady Manager to assist and encourage the society to advance the cause of missions in accordance with the general rules governing the auxiliary socie-

ties, and in no case advocating any action independent of the Conference Society.

ART. 5. Every member of the society must be pledged to contribute five cents monthly.

ART. 6. Any one may become an honorary member of the society by the payment of $5, or a life-member by the payment of $10.

BY-LAWS.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the society, and advance its general interests.

2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, and to aid in devising means for the efficiency of the society.

3. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the society. It shall also be her duty to send quarterly reports, not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March, to the Conference Corresponding Secretary, giving the *status* of the society. A copy of this report shall be sent to the District Secretary.

4. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, and to provide the pastor with written notices of the meetings.

5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect the dues of the members, and to hold in trust the funds of the society, keeping a book account, and remitting to the Conference Treasurer not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March; also at the same time to furnish the auxiliary Corresponding Secretary a statement of amount remitted. Collectors may be appointed to assist the Treasurer.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MISSIONARIES.

1. All missionaries in the employ of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions must work under the advice and approval of this Board, and conform to the general plan of work in the mission to which she is appointed. "Every school or hospital established by the Board shall send reports (such as are made to the Woman's Board) to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds such school or hospital may be situated."

2. To secure organization and unity in the mission field every missionary of the Woman's Board is expected to work under the advice and in harmonious relation with the agent appointed over that part of the field to which she has been assigned, through whom she will receive all instructions and all funds, and send quarterly and annual reports to the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Board.

3. Every missionary is authorized to conduct the internal affairs of her department as she thinks best suited to the surroundings, to secure good results; provided always that her plans are in harmony with the general plans of the agent in charge of her district, and meet the approval of the Woman's Board.

4. Before sending their annual reports the missionaries of the Woman's Board, and the wives of missionaries engaged in work for this Board, must

hold an annual meeting to consider plans and estimates; and these, with the annual reports of the work, must be forwarded promptly by the agent to the Corresponding Secretary. All the representatives must, if possible, attend this meeting to consider and compare methods of work in their several departments.

5. That ample time be allotted missionaries for the study of the language the first year of their stay in the field—certainly not less than three hours a day. Should circumstances prevent sufficient study the first year, that the missionaries continue the second year with salary and work of the first year.

6. That the missionaries shall not turn aside from the work assigned them by the Board, through the agent, without permission of the Board; and that as much as possible, in addition to school work, house-to-house visiting among the natives, either by the Bible women under the supervision of the missionary or by the missionary herself, be kept up.

7. That missionaries present their needs to the Board, and not to the Church at large through its periodicals, nor to societies privately without permission of the Board.

8. That our mission schools be used solely for the objects had in view in their erection. Any pupils who complete the course of study in our schools, and wish to take a normal training in the government school, may continue to live in the mission for two years longer for the purpose, paying a reasonable board.

9. All donations received for the work must be mentioned in the annual reports.

10. The action of the Woman's Board will be communicated to the agents officially by the Corresponding Secretary of the Board.

11. Missionaries must not involve the society in any expense the estimate of which has not been submitted to and approved by the Board in annual session.

12. Under no circumstances shall new work be opened without the consent of the Woman's Board. Missionaries are not permitted to make public or private appeals for funds to aid in support of their work without the knowledge and approval of the Board, and such appeals must be made through the Corresponding Secretary of the Board.

13. Medical missionaries must keep itemized accounts of receipts and disbursements, sending quarterly and annual reports of the same to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board. Such receipts may be used by them for needful expenses in their work. If there is any surplus, it must be placed in the treasury in the field, and accredited as receipts arising from the practise of medical missionaries. The medical outfit is the property of the Board.

14. That any surplus accruing from exchange or other causes be reported quarterly, but held in the treasury in the field until the close of the fiscal year, unless in case of an emergency the Board authorizes its use for any purpose, other than that mentioned in the estimates, or accorded in the appropriations.

15. If a missionary in the employ of the Woman's Board, or an accepted candidate, evinces any unfitness for the work, the agreement may be can-

celed, and, after giving her three months' notice, she may be recalled by the Board. Her expenses home will be paid, provided she returns within the time specified.

16. In order to conserve health and strength every missionary is advised to so arrange her work as to allow every year at least one month of vacation, in which there shall be a cessation of regular work, and which shall be spent, if possible, away from her station.

17. Should a missionary desire her expenses paid to return home for any other cause than that of ill health, she must in every case give her reasons, and obtain leave of absence from the Woman's Board through the agent in charge of her field.

18. Missionaries must give their entire time and attention to their legitimate work, as ample salary to meet their temporal necessities is paid them by the Board.

19. A missionary who is at home to rest and to recover health will not be expected to take up any special work for three months after reaching the home land, and for three months before returning to the mission field, but she will be expected to be present at the first annual meeting of the Board after her arrival home. Her expenses to and from the place of meeting will be paid by the Board.

20. The duties of our missionaries for the first year in the field must be so arranged that the greater part of their time may be given to the study of the language, and their salaries for that year shall be $500. Medical missionaries are not included in this provision.

21. Every missionary employed by the Woman's Board is required to comply with the above conditions, and to remember always her promise given under the head of "Questions to Missionary Candidates," No. 16.

MANUAL FOR MISSIONARY CANDIDATES AND FOR MISSIONARIES.

This manual is intended for those who desire to engage in missionary work under the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It is intended to serve instead of so many written and verbal inquiries, and it is presumed that candidates and missionaries will carefully read its contents.

Qualifications.

The same general qualifications are requisite which are considered conditions of success at home: a sound physical constitution; intellectual ability; practical experience; adaptation to all circumstances and to persons of all classes; a cheerful, hopeful spirit; persistent energy in carrying out the plans of the Board—all controlled by a singleness of purpose and devotion to the cause of Christ. Facility in acquiring a foreign tongue is a valuable qualification, also a practical knowledge of domestic work is almost a necessity.

Requirements of Missionary Candidates.

1. The papers of a missionary candidate must be presented first to the Corresponding Secretary of the Conference Society in which she resides, in time to be forwarded to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board *not less*

than three months before the annual meeting of the Woman's Board. The Conference Executive Committee must seek a personal acquaintance with the candidate, and know something of her character and history, before her papers are forwarded to the Secretary of the Board.

2. The papers must be references from the pastor and Sunday-school superintendent of the church in which the candidate holds her membership; from the President of the college where she was educated, and where she has taught; also from persons who have had good opportunities for knowing the candidate, her acquirements, capabilities, and Christian character. The candidate herself must write her application to the Board, giving a brief history of her life; telling her age, place of residence, where educated, for whom and where she has taught, her religious experience and motives for wishing to enter missionary service. She should state particularly whether she has a sound constitution, and the condition of her health at the time; also any facts about herself which might prevent her acceptance.

3. She must furnish a health certificate from a competent physician, and answer satisfactorily the questions under that head. It is important that she be examined by a specialist for the ear, eye, throat, and lungs; and also secure a certificate from him of the soundness of these organs.

4. In the case of a medical missionary, in addition to the usual testimonials, she must secure certificates from the professors of the medical college in which she has taken the course.

5. Whereas the value of our training-school has been demonstrated in testing as well as training candidates for foreign missionary work; therefore

Resolved, That hereafter all missionary candidates, unless they be exceptionally qualified by practical experience as Christian workers or teachers, be required to take the course of study prescribed in the Scarritt Bible and Training School before acceptance by the Board.

6. The age of the candidate must not be less than twenty-five years nor more than thirty-five. Superior qualifications and circumstances may justify a deviation from this rule.

7. The testimonials of a missionary candidate may be summed up as follows: Health, education, capabilities for teaching, executive and financial ability, with a general fitness for the work, and a consecrated purpose. These are essential qualities in mission work.

8. No candidate will be accepted unless she will promise to give five years of service to the Woman's Board from the time she reaches the field, unless her health should fail. She must sign an agreement to this effect: "If I voluntarily leave the service of the Board for any other cause than ill health before the expiration of five years, I promise to refund to the Board the amount paid for my outfit and traveling expenses." This does not imply that her obligation for service ceases at the end of five years, but that she is bound for this length of time to refund the amount of outfit and travel if she leaves the work before the time expires. She must give six months notice to the Board of her intention to leave the work, or forfeit her salary for that length of time.

9. Her preferences for a field will be considered, but it is expected that she will acquiesce in the decision and judgment of the Board.

10. Every candidate is required to come before either the committee in Nashville or before the Woman's Board in annual session.

11. If a candidate has been accepted or recommended for acceptance by the committee in Nashville, it is not necessary for her papers to come before the Committee on Missionary Candidates at the annual meeting.

12. After her acceptance the candidate must consider herself under the guidance of the Board in the interim of her departure for her appointed field.

13. The traveling expenses of a candidate are paid from her home to the mission field. A sufficient sum is granted for her personal outfit. Her salary does not begin until she reaches her field of labor. The salary of a missionary is not to be regarded in any sense as *compensation* for labor performed, nor is it graded to suit the different abilities of the individuals, as in the ordinary business occupations of life. The amount received by the missionary is supposed to be what is necessary for her support while in the field. Compensation for this service will be found in the privilege of teaching the truth as it is in Christ to the Gentiles.

Questions to Candidates.

(Questions to be copied, and answers to be written opposite.)

1. Do you feel that your heart is moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the work of a foreign missionary?
2. (*a*) Are you a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South?
   (*b*) How long have you been a member.
3. Do you subscribe to the doctrines of this Church?
4. Is it your desire and intention to make the work of foreign missions your life-work?
5. Are you willing to go to any field?
6. Have you had experience in Christian work?
7. Have you a good English education?
8. (*a*) Have you studied any ancient or modern language?
   (*b*) Do you acquire such with ease?
9. Have you taught school; where, and with what success?
10. Can you teach music, vocal or instrumental?
11. (*a*) What is the condition of your health?
    (*b*) Are you predisposed to any physical weakness?
12. What is your age?
13. (*a*) Have you ever applied to other Mission Boards or Societies?
    (*b*) Were you refused, and for what cause?
14. Have you ever married? If so, is your husband living?
15. Will you promise to keep the following conditions: "If you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful that you do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for his glory?"
16. Do you agree to conform to all the requirements of the Woman's Board while in its service?

Certificate of Health.

(Questions to be copied, and answers to be written opposite by the examining physician.)

1. How long have you known this person?
2. Has your acquaintance been such as to enable you to know particularly of her health and physical tendencies?
3. Are her habits active or sedentary?
4. (*a*) Has she had the usual diseases of childhood?
   (*b*) Have they affected her constitution in any way?
5. Has she had any serious illness, local disease, or personal injury? If so, of what nature, how long since, and has she entirely recovered from it?
6. Has she been successfully vaccinated?
7. Have her grandparents, parents, brothers, or sisters ever had mental derangement, nervous disease, pulmonary complaint, heart difficulties, scrofula, or any serious disease tending to shorten life?
8. Is she subject to any physical weakness, or diseases peculiar to women?
9. Are her eyes in a healthful condition?
10. Has she any tendency to deafness?
11. Is her health strong and vigorous at this time?

ABSTRACT FROM BISHOPS' ADDRESS TO GENERAL CONFERENCE, MAY, 1898.

It would be unjust to our Church not to mention in this connection the admirable service our godly women are rendering. They are not men, and do not seek to be, but are what God intended them: helpmeets for men—just as meet in the Church as in the family, and just as valuable, not to say indispensable. The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions is now just twenty years old. Already they have fifty missionaries in the foreign field, and one hundred and thirty-two native helpers and teachers, and thirty-seven Bible women, making a total force of two hundred and nineteen; while the General Board has one hundred and four missionaries, eighty-nine native traveling preachers, and one hundred and two native helpers, a total of two hundred and ninety-five workers—a force eighty-four more in numbers than theirs, a comparative result most favorable to the women, both in industry and financial skill, when the time of operation and available resources are considered. Within twenty years they have raised $1,214,321.75, of which $307,800.01 has been secured this quadrennium. Mrs. D. H. McGavock, the faithful and efficient General Secretary of this society from its organization, passed to her reward December 23, 1896.

The Scarritt Bible and Training School.

As a part of their work should be mentioned the Scarritt Bible and Training School for Missionaries and Other Christian Workers, which has demonstrated the need and wisdom of its creation, to train for both the foreign and home fields the young women of our Church. Its graduates and representatives are now in our several mission fields, and the demand for such trained workers is constantly increasing. The trained nurses from its

wards, after two years' instruction and clinical experience, take with them the needed skill in ministering at the bedside, while the Christian atmosphere of the institution prepares them to become Christian workers no less than trained nurses. There has been a gratifying increase both in the endowment and attendance of students.

FROM MINUTES OF GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS, APRIL, 1898.

The report of the Committee on the Report of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions was presented as follows, and adopted:

The committee to whom was referred the report of Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, have considered the same, and express our high appreciation of the work being done. Their field of operation has extended, their annual offerings have substantially increased, and the various missions they are conducting have enjoyed marked prosperity. We assure the good women of our hearty approval of their noble efforts toward the evangelization of the world, and ask that the report of Mrs. Trueheart be spread upon the minutes of this Board.

CHARLES B. GALLOWAY,
J. H. PRITCHETT,
C. G. ANDREWS.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ADVOCATE.

The *Woman's Missionary Advocate* is the official organ of the society. The editor is elected quadrennially by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. This paper is published monthly. The address of the Editor and Agent is: Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn. Terms, 50 cents per annum, in advance.

LITTLE WORKER.

The *Little Worker* is the juvenile paper issued by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Editor, Miss Annie Maria Barnes, Duluth, Ga. Terms, 10 cents per annum, in advance.

LEAFLETS.

Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor and Publisher, 2408 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Md. Leaflets can be obtained from Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker* and Leaflets, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.: also from the Conference Corresponding Secretaries.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Chairman; Mrs. W. G. E. Cunnyngham, Mr. I. G. John, Mrs. J. D. Hamilton, Mrs. P. A. Sowell.

MEMBERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS TO THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The payment of ten cents a month for adults, and five cents a month for juveniles, constitutes a member for one year. Twenty dollars constitutes a *life-member;* ten dollars, a juvenile life-member. One hundred dollars will made an honorary life-member. Three hundred dollars will make an honorary life-patron.

Forty dollars supports a scholarship in the foreign field. Sixty dollars supports a Bible woman.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I hereby give and bequeath to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the laws of the state of Tennessee, $——, or ——, to be paid or conveyed to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions (the executive body of the society), whose receipt therefor shall be acquittance to my executors.

FORM OF DEVISE.

I hereby give and devise absolutely and in fee simple to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the laws of the state of Tennessee, the following real estate: [adding such description as shall fully identify the particular real estate intended.]

NOTE.—Prompt notice of bequests and devises should be given to Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Corresponding Secretary, Woman's Board.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was incorporated in January, 1879, in the city of Nashville, according to the laws of the state of Tennessee. The five incorporators were: Mrs. D. H. McGavock, Mrs. Amelia T. McTyeire, Mrs. Martha Whitworth, Mrs. Ella Lupton, Mrs. S. R. Manier.

PERIODICALS RECOMMENDED FOR REFERENCE AND USE IN SOCIETIES.

Review of Missions, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

Missionary Review of the World, 18 and 20 Astor Place, New York.

Woman's Work for Women and *Our Mission Fields*, 53 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Life and Light for Women, Congregational House, Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Heathen Woman's Friend, Miss P. J. Walden, 36 Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass.

Missionary Herald, American Board.

Missionary Link, W. U. M. S.

Spirit of Missions, Episcopal.

Lutheran Missionary Journal.

Helping Hand, Baptist.

Woman's Missionary Advocate, Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

Little Worker, Miss Annie Maria Barnes, Duluth, Ga.

The *Evangel*, Scarritt Bible and Training School, Kansas City, Mo.

Woman's Work in the Far East, published quarterly, Shanghai, China.

Report of the Missionary Conference, London, 1888.

Maps of China, Brazil, and Mexico, prepared by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, are for sale at the office of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate.* Price, on paper, $1.10; mounted on cloth, $2.10. Address Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

"Mission Studies." A Brief Sketch of Missions in Many Lands. By Mrs. F. A. Butler. 12mo. Price, $1; postage, 10 cents.

"A Circuit of the Globe." By Bishop C. B. Galloway. Price, $1; postage, 10 cents.

"Matouchon: A Story of Indian Child Life." By Miss A. M. Barnes. Price, $1; postage, 10 cents.

The above publications may be had by sending orders to Barbee & Smith, Agents, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

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